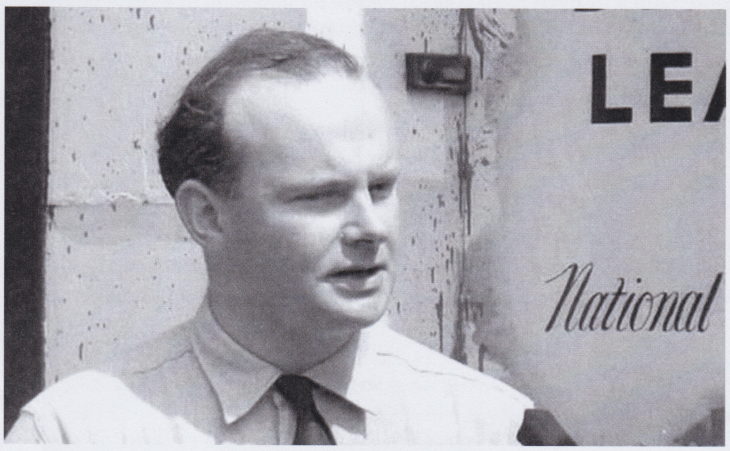
Heritage and Destiny

£3.00 / $6.00 Issue 78 | Stand Men of the West – Today is the day we fight! | May-June 2017

The Le Pen dynasty: Europe's future?

Marine Le Pen enters Presidential run-off as UKIP faces electoral wipe-out

Editorial and Analysis on pages 2 & 7-9



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Stephen Frost reviews *Colin Jordan and Britain's Neo-Nazi Movement* by Dr Paul Jackson

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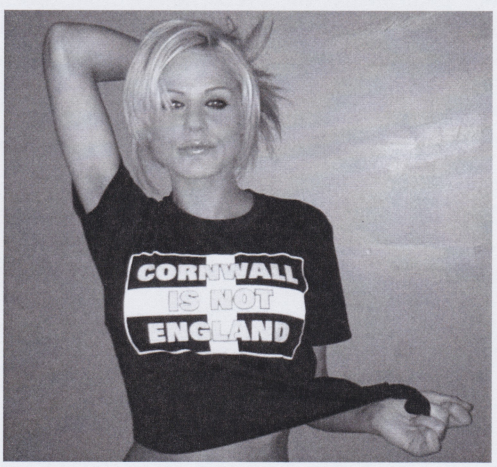

and

Cornwall for the Cornish?

Tristan Bolitho explores Cornish nationalism

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Editorial

Welcome to issue 78 of *Heritage and Destiny.* It's been a busy time on the election front, with results of the first round of the French Presidential election just in as we go to press (see page 7 of this issue and updates on the *H&D* website). And as this issue pops through your letter box in early May the local/county council elections will be upon us (full results and analysis in the next issue). And on top of this Conservative Prime Minister Theresa May has called a general election for June 8th (again full results and analysis by Peter Rushton in our next issue #79).

The elections in France and Britain could not be more different for nationalists. Marine Le Pen achieved the best 'far right' result since the Second World War, with 21.3% in the presidential election first round, up from 17.9% in 2012. The only other occasion when the FN qualified for the second round was 2002, when the party's founder Jean-Marie Le Pen took 17.8% (only a fraction up from his first round 16.9%).

This time Marine Le Pen can expect to poll above 30% in the second round. The contrast with the UK could hardly be greater. UKIP is in disarray with former leader Nigel Farage deciding not even to stand at the General Election, and his successor Paul Nuttall realistically unable to expect gaining a single seat. Former UKIP MP Douglas Carswell is leaving Parliament, has quit the party and is now supporting his old Conservative friends.

There are several reasons for this stark contrast. During the 1970s (and even early 1980s) the French FN was smaller and in some ways considered more on the 'extreme' fringe than the British NF, polling only 0.5% in 1973's parliamentary elections and 0.8% after Le Pen's first presidential campaign in 1974.

By strange coincidence, the FN advanced from obscurity in the early 1980s just as the NF declined. While NF splits proliferated after 1979, Jean-Marie Le Pen and the FN emerged after the 1981 elections (despite only polling 0.2%) as effectively the sole electoral voice of French nationalism. They shrewdly took advantage of fragmentation among right-wing conservatives, entering local electoral pacts which helped Le Pen win election in 1983 as a local councillor in Paris and his colleague Jean-Pierre Stirbois to become deputy mayor of Dreux after a widely-publicised by-election later that year.

The proportional electoral system in the 1984 European elections gave the FN 11% and ten MEPs: its first significant nationwide vote. Crucially Le Pen was then gifted a new PR system at the 1986 parliamentary election – introduced by socialist President Mitterrand in a deliberate policy to boost the FN and split the conservative right. The French establishment soon realised this was a mistake and began decades of efforts to demonise (and even criminalise) the FN, but the party is now firmly positioned as not only a voice of protest but a serious contender for power.

Marine Le Pen and Nigel Farage – former rivals in the European Parliament – met for a friendly radio interview during this year's presidential campaign.

Meanwhile in the UK nationalists still have to contend with the first-past-the-post system in almost all elections: this means that the only path to being regarded seriously is to begin by winning council seats in target areas. The BNP started down this path but due to chaotic leadership every potential stronghold soon collapsed. UKIP's local council record has been similarly dismal or worse.

Tactical ineptitude has been combined with strategic and ideological confusion. Despite shallow attempts to rebrand UKIP as the champion of disenfranchised northern workers, the party still carries the stale aroma of post-Thatcherite reactionary conservatism. By contrast Marine Le Pen is utterly convincing as the voice of French workers who demand national sovereignty and France for the French, not as merely one more piece on the board to be moved around by international capitalists.

If you are an active Nationalist why not buy some extra copies of this issue to give out (or sell them!) at your next branch meeting – it's another great issue and should 'sell like hot cakes'! And as always we also need your regular donations – however large or small, every Pound, Dollar or even Euro counts. Please try and send in whatever you can afford. Thanks once again for your support, together we will win.

Heritage and Destiny

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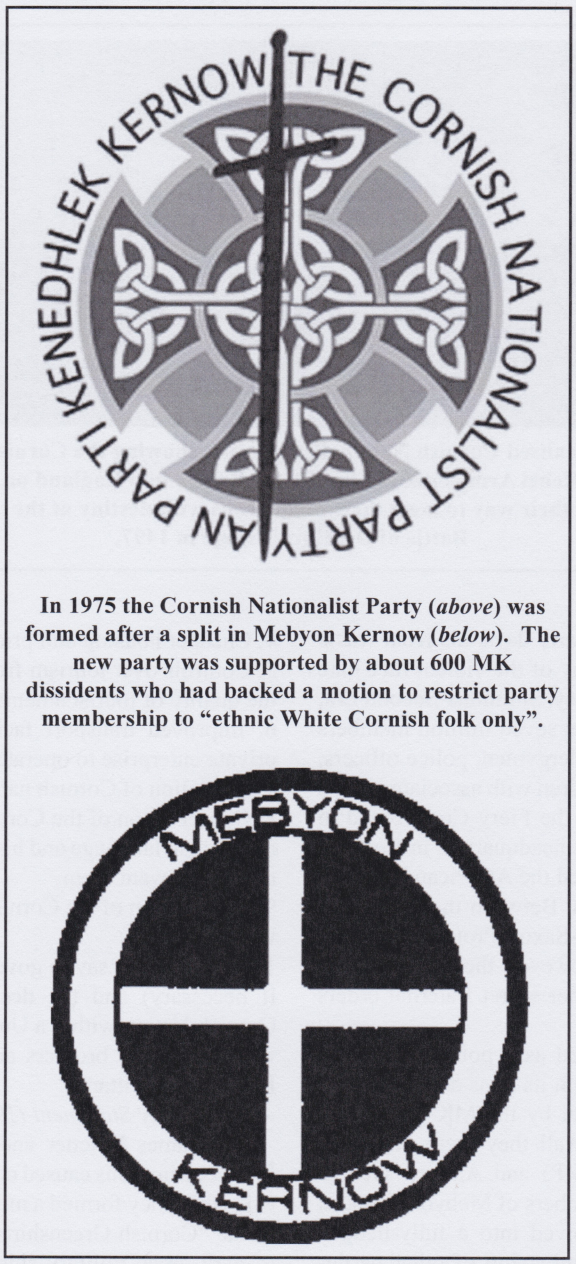
Cornwall for the Cornish?

Cornwall (*Kernow* in the Cornish Celtic language which is still spoken fluently by around 600 Cornish men, women and children today with several thousands more having a working knowledge of the tongue) is an ancient Celtic land shrouded in mystery and mythology located in the far south west of the British Isles. Cornwall used to have its own monarchy and the legendary Celtic warrior chief King Arthur is thought to have reigned here in olden times. The last Cornish King, Donyarth, died in 875 AD.

Many Cornish folk are adamant that Kernow is one of the constituent Celtic nations (and not an Anglo-Saxon English "county") along with Alba (Scotland), Cymru (Wales), Mannin (Isle of Man), Eire (Ireland) and Breizh (Brittany), with regions of ethnic White Celts in northern Spain and northern Italy. The English King Edward I granted Cornwall her own Stannary Parliament separate from England. (The revived Cornish Stannary Parliament is a Nationalist organisation with membership open to ethnic Cornish people only.)

In the early sixteenth century, after half a millennium of English rule, Cornish was still spoken in mid and west Cornwall by possibly as many as 30,000 of Cornwall's 55,000 or so inhabitants. The persistence of this small but vigorous language community underpinned the recognition of Cornwall and the Cornish as a distinct component of the British Isles into the 1500s. The Venetian ambassador to Castile, stranded in Penryn by adverse weather in 1506, dramatically reported that: 'We are...in the midst of a race, so different in language and customs from the Londoners and the rest of England...' This view may have been stimulated by the events of 1497. In that year a Cornish force rose twice against the government. The first epic rising, led by Michael Joseph An Gof and Thomas Flamank reached the very outskirts of London, only to go down to defeat. It was most unusual for 'local' risings to show such strategic purpose as did the Cornish... The ambiguous Cornish status – politically incorporated into the English realm but culturally regarded as a distinct nation – was fatally compromised by the religious Reformation of the sixteenth century and the centralising tendencies of the Tudor state. In the short run this triggered the bloody Cornish rising of 1549 when, in relative terms, as many Cornish men were killed in a few months as were French men during the four years of World War One.

Mebyon Kernow and Cornish Nationalism by Bernard Deacon, Dick Cole and Garry Tregidga



In 1975 the Cornish Nationalist Party (*above*) was formed after a split in Mebyon Kernow (*below*). The new party was supported by about 600 MK dissidents who had backed a motion to restrict party membership to "ethnic White Cornish folk only".

The first stirrings of political Cornish Celtic European Nationalism occurred during the early 20th century with the formation of the *Cowethas Kelto-Kernuak* (Celtic-Cornish Society) whose objectives were as follows:

"1. To preserve from damage and destruction and to study the stone-circles, cromlechs, menhirs, hut circles, beehive dwellings, camps, hill forts, castles, logan and crick stones, crosses, oratories, holy wells, cemeteries, barrows, and inscribed stones.

"2. To keep carefully every National Custom and above all the truly Cornish sports of Wrestling and Hurling, by presenting every year a Belt to be contended for by Cornish wrestlers, and inscribed silver Hurling balls to each Parish in the Duchy that will ordain an annual Hurling match on its feast day.

"3. To revive the Cornish Language as a spoken tongue, by publishing a grammar and Dictionary of the Language, by printing all Cornish manuscripts not yet printed, by giving prizes for fresh competitions in Cornish, by paying a premium for teaching Cornish to Schoolmasters able to satisfy the Council of their fitness, and also:

"4. Reviving the ancient Cornish Miracle Plays and re-establishing the Cornish Gorsedd of the Bards at Boscawen-Un."

The *Tyr ha Tavas* (Land and Language) movement was formed in 1932 and adopted the slogan *Omseveagh why gonesugy Kernow!* (Arise Workers of Cornwall!) and the following policy platform:

"a. To preserve in the youth of Cornwall a love and understanding of their country and its history.

"b. To encourage an expression in drama, music, art, literature and cultural forms, of the innate Cornish instinct.

"c. To encourage the practice of typical Cornish sports.

"d. To utilise the Cornish language both as an outward and visible sign of nationality, and as a means of helping Cornish people to realise their essential kinship with other Celtic nations. To show Cornish people what Cornishmen have done and what they can still do to help the world."

During the midst of the Second World War in 1943, John Legonna, an Oxford University student under the tutelage of Cornish historian A.L. Rowse founded a new patriotic but ultimately short-lived organisation called the Young Cornwall Movement to campaign for Cornish Home Rule.

The British Intelligence Services MI5, MI6 and Police Special Branch were at this time monitoring the nationalist movements of the so-called "Celtic fringe" in Scotland, Wales, Cornwall and Ireland with particular interest in members of Irish nationalist, IRA and fascist groups in the north – due to the fact that some prominent officials of National Socialist Germany were known to be sympathetic to such movements. Saunders Lewis, the leader of the Welsh Nationalist Party – Plaid Cymru wrote pro-Fascist, pro-Peace and allegedly "anti-Semitic" articles, and key figures in the Scottish National Party such as Arthur Donaldson, Hugh MacDiarmid and Douglas Young were supportive of National Socialism and Peace with Germany. See the books *The Fascist Party in Wales? Plaid Cymru, Welsh Nationalism and the Accusation of Fascism* by Richard Wyn Jones, *Fascist Scotland: Caledonia and the Far Right* by Gavin Bowd, *Architects of the Resurrection: Ailtirí na hAiséirghe and the Fascist 'New Order' in Ireland* by R.M. Douglas and *The Irish Blueshirts* by Keith Thompson. When Sir Oswald Mosley formed the post-fascist Union Movement in 1948 after what he termed the "European Brothers' Civil War" he wrote a pamphlet which was controversial in Ulster Unionist/Loyalist circles but proved popular among Irish members of UM living in Britain, entitled *Ireland's Right to Unite when entering European Union.*

On Saturday 6th January 1951, a historic meeting took place at Oates' Temperance Hotel in Redruth to launch a new Cornish Nationalist political organisation called Mebyon Kernow (Sons of Cornwall). It was agreed at the inaugural meeting of MK that membership "be open to all

Cornish people everywhere," reflecting the original ethnic-nationalist founding principles of the movement. The society adopted the emblem of the Celtic Cross St Piran's flag of Cornwall (a white cross on a black banner). The eight points of the ethnic-nationalist MK were:

"1. To maintain the Celtic character of Cornwall and its right to self-government in domestic affairs.

"2. To study local conditions and attempt to remedy any that may be prejudicial to the best interests of Cornwall by the creation of informed public opinion or other appropriate means.

"3. To press that Cornish men and women should be given preference in appointments to Cornish jobs, other factors being equal.

"4. To foster the Cornish Language, Literature, Culture and Sport.

"5. To encourage the study of Cornish History from a Cornish point of view.

"6. To demand that Cornish children have the opportunity, in school, to learn about their own Land, Language and Culture.

"7. To co-operate with all societies concerned with maintaining the character of Cornwall.

"8. To co-operate, as far as may be practicable, with similar organisations in other Celtic countries in Britain, Ireland and Europe."

Idealised Cornish Nationalist painting showing the Cornish Rebel Army crossing the Tamar Bridge into England on their way to meet their rendezvous with destiny at the Battle of Deptford Bridge in 1497.

Cornish clannish cultural associations with membership restricted to people of ethnic Cornish descent were formed overseas in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, Rhodesia, Kenya, India and America (Colonel William Joseph Simmons was an American Methodist Church Minister who revived the Klan at a ceremony in 1915 atop Stone Mountain in Georgia, USA and he had a Cornish surname. In the early days, his Klan was a respectable Christian organisation unlike many of the violent race hate bodies calling themselves "Ku Klux Klan" today. Simmons' Second Era, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan had as many as seven million members at its peak during the early 1920s including clergymen, police officers, Conservative politicians, housewives and children with associate groups for foreigners, such as the German Order of the Fiery Cross based in Berlin and the White Knights of Britain with headquarters in London, and even Negro associate members who helped the American Klan spy on and to combat Communists and criminals. Between the 1940s and 1970s some Klans also relaxed their "Anglo-Saxon Protestants Only" line and accepted Catholics as members. However, the Klan had too many historical links to Freemasonry and other secret fraternal orders for my liking.)

Mebyon Kernow was originally organised as a political pressure group and any Cornish people who agreed with its aims and objectives could join the movement, subject to approval by the MK leadership, regardless of which political party in Cornwall they were members. Thus, David Mudd (once a Conservative MP) and Andrew George (later a Liberal Democrat MP) were once members of Mebyon Kernow. However, by the early 1970s, MK had evolved into a fully-fledged political party in its own right and dual membership of other parties active in Cornwall was proscribed to MK members. Mebyon Kernow still contests local and parliamentary elections today, and the Party currently has several elected local councillors but no Members of the United Kingdom Parliament at the time of writing.

During the February and October 1974 General Elections, Dr James Whetter, Editor of the Mebyon Kernow monthly journal *Cornish Nation* fought the Truro city seat as the official MK candidate, pledging to cut "non-Cornish overspill and immigration", "unhealthy dependence on tourism" and for "better housing, wages and incomes in the interests of the Cornish people our kith and kin." He polled several hundred votes on each occasion but the MK tally was squeezed by the Liberal Party candidate David Penhaligon, who cynically played the "patriotic Cornish" card to win over Cornish Nationalist voters who sympathised with MK, but who didn't think they could win. Electoral success at the parliamentary level has so far eluded Cornish Nationalists.

At the MK Annual General Meeting held in 1975, tensions between the ethnic nationalist and civic nationalist wings of the Party boiled over into open rancour and conflict when a proposal to restrict MK membership to "ethnic white Cornish folk only who can trace their lineage back several hundred years" was narrowly defeated, and Dr James Whetter and 600 of his supporters resigned from the 4,000 strong Mebyon Kernow to launch the rival Cornish Nationalist Party (CNP).

"*Support the Cornish Nationalist Party - An Party Kenethlegek Kernow*

"The Cornish Nationalist Party fights for the right of all Cornish people in Cornwall to have a greater say in the affairs that affect them. We are opposed to decisions being taken by bureaucrats in London, Bristol or Plymouth relating to our land and over which we have no control. The problems of all Cornish men and women who live in Cornwall are our concern. We all suffer from the government's lack of interest and misgovernment.

"AIMS

1. To look after the interests of the Cornish people.
2. To preserve and enhance the identity of Kernow, an essentially Celtic identity.
3. To achieve self-government for Kernow.

"OBJECTIVES

1. Better job prospects for Cornish people.
2. Reduction of unemployment.
3. The protection of the self-employed and small businessman in Cornwall.
4. Cheaper housing and priority for Cornish people.
5. Controls over tourism from inside Cornwall and the improvement in the quality of tourist amenities.
6. Improved transport facilities in Cornwall with greater scope for private enterprise to operate.
7. Protection of Cornish natural resources, including offshore resources.
8. Conservation of the Cornish landscape, culture and identity. Courses on Cornish language and history should be made available in schools for those who want them.
9. Recognition of the Cornish flag and the retention of the Tamar border with England.
10. A far greater say in government for all Cornish people (by referenda if necessary) and the decentralisation of considerable powers to a Cornish Nation within a United Europe - special links being established with our Celtic brothers and sisters in Wales, Scotland, Isle of Man, Ireland and Brittany."

– *CNP Policy Statement (1975)*

Dr James Whetter and the leader of the CNP Youth Movement, Wallace Simmons caused considerable media hysteria and hostility from MK when they formed a militant paramilitary-style wing in 1977 known as the "Cornish Greenshirts" whose members wore a political uniform of dark green military shirts, grey trousers, black berets, black Army issue boots and CNP Celtic Cross and Excalibur sword armbands when stewarding indoor CNP meetings. A CNP Greenshirt march during 1977 in Camborne was banned under the Public Order Act 1936 (originally introduced by the British Government to curtail the marches of Mosley's Blackshirts who had organised a Cornish Branch during the 1930s, led by a former Royal Navy Officer, Commander William Ernest Russell Martin. See the article: "When Fascists foregathered in Saltash Square" – *Saltash & District Observer* March 2011, issue No. 224).

Dr Whetter also contested the 1979 and 1983 General Elections in Cornwall for the CNP, and he stood in the European Parliamentary Elections during 1984 for the Cornwall and Plymouth seat as a "Cornish and European Nationalist" candidate polling 1,892 votes.

The CNP is still active and Party Leader, Androw Hawke is a local councillor at the Cornish Community Council (parish) level. Dr Whetter published a new Cornish Nationalist journal entitled *An Baner Kernewek* (The Cornish Banner) after the 1975 split which produced racially conscious articles and cartoons, and he remains the CNP President and editor of ABK today, which has a wide circulation in Cornwall and overseas among Cornish Nationalists, ex-Cornwall UKIP/BNP/NF members, Cornish Christians and Cornish Pagans (previous issues have included articles in support of the Crimean Tatar Muslim anti-Communists).

"Dear Dr. Whetter,

"Re: The recent joint Cornish Nationalist Party/English National Party rally in Trafalgar Square. Over the past two months, many protests have been made against the wearing of the green shirts of the CNP. I have known Wallace Simmons the public relations officer of the CNP for many years, and can truthfully say his intentions for the future of Celtic Kernow is an honourable and just one. He is a man that has the courage of his own convictions, why then is Mebyon Kernow afraid to stand up and be counted?

"Someone has got to make the Anglo-Saxons sit up and take notice of Kernow's cry for self-government, the CNP and ENP alliance have struck the first blow. We can only hope that 1977 will bring its just rewards... The formation of the Greenshirts has been causing a furore in Cornwall. However, I see nothing wrong in them. I believe the Co-operative Youth Movement wears uniforms and they are an integral part of the Labour Party. It seems ridiculous that the establishment complains of the lack of interest in politics and then shriek when any attempt is made to brighten them up. No wonder people are disillusioned with Westminster politicians. The CNP will co-operate with rising new forces rather than pay heed to the protests of the dying parties of the past. The CNP is a hopeful new force. The attempts by the Attorney General, Sam Silkin, to condone the breaking of the law by the postal workers is rather alarming I should imagine for organisations like the CNP which are often branded as 'Fascist' simply because they are Nationalist. This is by no means the first time that Silkin has done this. For years a Zionist organisation has been distributing vast amounts of slanderous literature wherever the National Front have stood in elections. None of this has the printer's name or any other. At last the NF got evidence of who was doing it but the Attorney General, none other than our old friend soapy Sam, decided that no action can be taken – which means that the law continues to be broken with impunity. It just so happens that Silkin is himself a Zionist and writes articles sometimes in the *Jewish Chronicle*. A similar case is Eric Moonman, the Labour MP who is campaigning against Devolution for Scotland and Wales. He is also a fanatical Zionist who also writes frequently in the *Jewish Chronicle*. It is odd that Zionists, who are Jewish Nationalists should be so fanatically hostile to nationalism on the part of anyone else, be they Cornish, English, Irish or Palestinian. I see that a Jewish organisation is at present threatening to take the Minister of Education before the International Courts for not providing out of state funds more Jewish schools where Jewish children can be segregated and taught Hebrew and about Israel."

– *An Baner Kernewek* (Readers' Letters Page) Merth (March) 1977

Wallace Simmons eventually left the CNP and formed his own hardline Cornish Front (CF) which urged Cornish people to vote for the NF candidates in Cornwall during the UK General Election of 1979. He recently resurfaced in the Cornish media when he attacked homosexual propaganda being taught in schools to Cornish children. I personally have fond memories of travelling by train from Cornwall into Devon to attend NF activities with Mark Cotterill, Editor of *Heritage and Destiny* magazine, when he used to live in Torquay during the 1990s. I was also a member of the South West Region of the British National Party during the same period and caused an amusing media frenzy, questions by MPs in Parliament and useful publicity for the NF in Cornwall, when I sent a "NF Press Release" to all Cornish newspapers stating that the National Front would be supporting the right of the Cornish people in Padstow to celebrate "Darkie Day" (when the locals "black up" as Negro Minstrels to raise money for charity):

A heritage plaque funded by the Cornish Nationalist Party in Bodmin commemorates the historic rebellion of 1497.

Two weeks after its 'scoop', The Sunday Independent *reported that the National Front was planning to fight an election in Cornwall for the first time in 19 years under the banner of 'Keep Cornwall White'. "NF supporters believe they can pull in a large slice of the votes—especially following the Darkie Day race row," it said, quoting an NF spokesman as saying: "We fully support the rights of white people in Padstow to celebrate Darkie Day. As for Bernie Grant and his ilk, they would be far from these shores, back in the Caribbean and Africa, under the National Front's humane repatriation and resettlement programme and no longer able to interfere in our country's internal affairs."*

Padstow's Darkies were horrified...Padstow's Darkies also agreed to some alterations after meeting with the police and the local branch of the Commission for Racial Equality in the run-up to Christmas.

"But we refused, point-blank, not to go out," one local said. "The police didn't want us to dark our faces up or anything—I mean, that would've made a mockery of it."

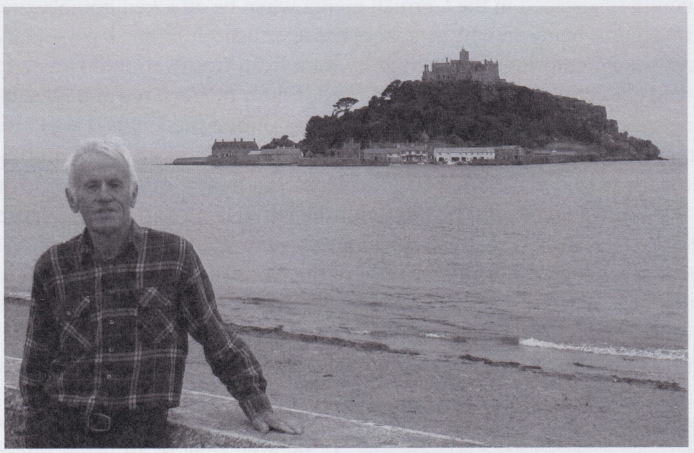
So they compromised.

The Padstow Darkies became the Padstow Mummers, with black faces but no minstrel-style white make-up around their eyes or mouths. Most importantly, they agreed to substitute "mummers" for the word "niggers" in their songs.

*Even so, a national broadsheet (*The Times*) revived the controversy in the following years with an article threatening that the National Front might march in Padstow.*

– 'Darkie Days' blog

The bitter rivalry between the CNP and MK raged in the letters pages of the local Cornish newspapers and in *CARN* - Celtic League magazine during the late 1970s, with each side accusing the other of being "Fascists", "Neo-Nazis", "Racialists", "Marxists", "Trotskyists" and "IRA sympathisers". A shadowy underground paramilitary organisation called the An Gof Militia (alleged by MK to be the armed group of the "right-wing" An Gof National Party – AGNP and *An Kenethlor – The Nationalist* magazine) threatened MK officials for being alleged "Marxist and Trotskyist infiltrators and usurpers of the Cornish Nationalist Movement", and An Gof volunteers claimed responsibility for a bomb attack on the St Austell courthouse in December 1980. (This writer is of the opinion that such illegal terrorist activity, such as that carried out by Meibion Glyndwr – MG, Free Wales Army – FWA and Scottish National Liberation Army – SNLA in the past, can only harm the legitimate cause of Cornish Nationalism at the ballot box. Surprisingly, the radical "Political Soldier" wing of the mainly English NF made common cause with such militant Celtic Nationalist groups



Dr James Whetter, founder of the Cornish Nationalist Party, visiting St Michael's Mount, an island off Marazion on the south-west coast of Cornwall.

during the 1980s. However, the fact is that clandestine groups such as the Cornish National Liberation Army – CNLA only have a very limited support base in Cornwall today, with no more than 30 members of their so-called "Active Service Units" – clearly modelled on militant Irish Republican paramilitary groups such as the Real IRA and Continuity IRA, who refused to lay down their weapons after the Northern Ireland Peace Agreement was signed between the British and Irish governments. Since threatening to firebomb the Cornwall-based restaurants of the "foreign" celebrity chefs Rick Stein and Jamie Oliver back in 2007, nothing much more has been reported about the activities of the CNLA.)

Here follows proposals I have received from Cornish Patriots and friends for the launch of a new Cornish National Movement (CNM) in 2017: see **cornishnationalmovement.blogspot.com**

"Cornish National Movement is an organisation of Celtic European Nationalism dedicated to Cornish National Freedom, Preservation of the Cornish people, Social Justice and National Democracy.

"Ten Points for Cornish Action

1. Self-government for Cornwall and the creation of a devolved Cornish Parliament within Britain in co-operation with the other Celtic Nations of Wales, Scotland, Isle of Man, Ireland, Brittany, and the ancient Celtic regions of Galicia, Asturias, Cantabria and Celtica in Europe.

2. Cornwall for the Cornish. An end to mass immigration with generous financial assistance for those non-European immigrants who wish to return to their homelands of ancestral ethnic origin. Put Cornish people first in employment, housing, education, health and social welfare. This is realism and common sense not racism.

3. The recognition of the St Piran's Cross as the national flag of Cornwall and the declaration of St Piran's Day as a Public Holiday in Cornwall, the teaching of the Cornish language in schools, the issuing of Cornish stamps by a Cornish Post Office, Cornish control of the media and tourism in Cornwall, and the conservation of Cornwall's countryside and environment with heavy fines for pollution and litter.

4. Higher wages for Cornish workers, lower taxes, cheaper prices for Cornish consumers, equal pay for Cornish women and worthwhile apprenticeships, training and summer camps for our young people as part of a Cornish National Youth Movement.

5. Cornish Jobs for Cornish Workers. Cornish control of industry in Cornwall and a policy of Cornish Economic Nationalism to replace the failed old ideologies of Global Monopoly Capitalism and International Marxist Socialism. Cornish Government must have the right to coin, issue and regulate the value of money not the Bank of England. Encourage Cornish people to buy Cornish goods and foodstuffs with less reliance on foreign imports.

6. Put Cornwall First in a United Europe of the European Peoples which will become superior to and replace the EU.

7. The revival of a Cornish Police Force and the return of law and order with more Cornish police officers on the beat and tougher sentences for criminal offences.

8. The formation of a Cornish Defence Force composed of a Cornish Army, Cornish Navy and Cornish Air Force.

9. The adoption of a position of armed neutrality for a Cornish National People's State like Ireland and Switzerland. Sympathy for other oppressed peoples overseas such as the Palestinians and Tibetans, in their struggle for National Freedom against the brutal occupation of their homelands by Zionism and Communism.

10. A Cornish Bill of Rights guaranteeing freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, the right to join Cornish Trade Unions, freedom of the press with the right to reply and freedom of religion."

I conclude this article with an interesting quote from Dr James Whetter's book *A Celtic Tomorrow: Essays in Cornish Nationalism* (MK Publications 1973) which promotes segregation between Cornish and non-Cornish races:

The experience of the Hitler era has made Race a taboo word in 'civilised' circles since. This seems a pity because that peoples of the world have differing physical characteristics is obvious enough and scientifically conducted research into such differences, their impact on people's outlooks, behaviour one would think they can only be of benefit to humanity. Just as there are major physical differences between peoples, white, black, brown and yellow skinned races for instance, so there are less distinctive differences...From personal observation I seem to discern three main types of Cornishmen. First are the tallish, well-built individuals, brown hair, sometimes blondish, fair skins, generally blue eyes, oval, pear-shaped heads. Farmers, country folk in central and eastern Kernow. Second stocky, solidly built men and women with large round heads, often with receding foreheads. Farmers often also - in pockets through the land. Third black haired men and women, short to middling stature, swarthy complexions, sometimes slight of build. Blue and brown eyes. Localised in fishing villages around the east of Kernow and forming quite a large proportion of the population in west Kernow.

In modern times, Mebyon Kernow is now a self-confessed "progressive left-of-centre" party while the Cornish Nationalist Party is described on Wikipedia as "cultural nationalist and right-wing". During 2013, a UKIP candidate in the Cornwall Council elections, Sue Bowen, was disowned by Nigel Farage's former party, after it was discovered that she used to be a member of not only Mebyon Kernow but the British National Party as well. (Sue Bowen is thought to have moved to live in self-imposed exile in Lancashire, the same English county where my uncle still lives, at least until the media furore over Sue Bowen's past blows over.)

In 2016, Truro MK councillor and pro-Palestinian activist, Lance Dyer was suspended by Dick Cole, the leader of MK for questioning certain aspects of 20th century history on Twitter, and MK has condemned "racism" in Cornwall, while the CNP has called for tougher controls on non-Cornish immigration into our Cornish homeland. Likewise, the Irish Sinn Fein ("Ourselves Alone") and the Scottish National Party have attacked Irish and Scottish "racism" while groups such as the Celtic People's Party of Ireland and Scottish *Siol nan Gaidheal* (Seed of the Gaels) are ethnic-nationalist, as Mebyon Kernow used to be at one time in the distant past, but are now caused acute embarrassment when reminded of this "politically incorrect" fact of Cornish political history.

The Manx Mec Vannin (Sons of the Isle of Man) and the Welsh Cymru Sovereign Party campaign against immigration and the Breton Adsav (Revival) Movement has been labelled as "Far-Right" with roots in *Bezen Perrot* – the Breton Nationalist volunteer unit of the Pan-European Waffen-SS during World War II (see G.R. Jenkin's 1970s Cornish NS journal *National Observer*).

Tristan Bolitho, Penzance, Kernow/Cornwall

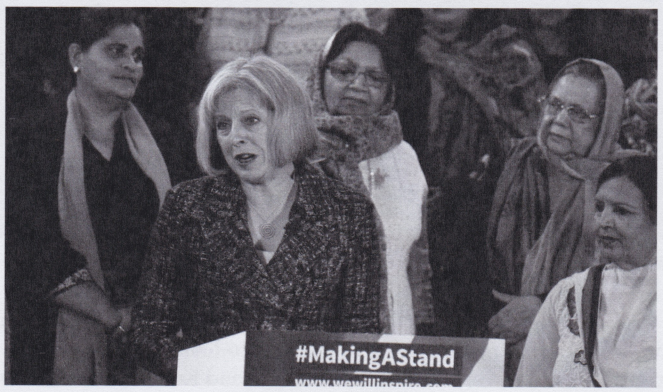
Editor's note: An Baner Kernewek - The Voice of the Cornish People *is the quarterly magazine of Cornish Cultural Nationalism produced by Dr. Whetter. Each forty page A4 size glossy issue is jam packed with Cornish history and comment on Cornish politics, culture, heritage, language, and issues such as immigration, Europe, foreign affairs and religious studies. A sample copy of the latest issue costs £3.50 (UK) or £5.00 (Europe) or £6.00 (Rest of World) payable to: CNP Publications, The Roseland Institute, Gorran, St Austell, Kernow/ Cornwall PL26 6NT. Or online via* **www.theroselandinstitute.co.uk**

UKIP collapse and Unionist crisis contrasts with Le Pen first round success and Europe-wide advance

Spring 2017's European election cycle is among the most important ever for White nationalists, and for those who (while avoiding this label), are seen in a broader sense as part of our people's resistance to the global imposition of multiculturalism and mass migration. Yet Anglo-American racial nationalists are now looking for inspiration to continental Europe, as the momentum of last year's Brexit and Trump victories fades into disillusionment across the English-speaking world.

The main talking-point is of course Marine Le Pen qualifying for the second round in the French presidential election, achieving 21.3% in the first round on April 23rd: the best ever result for the National Front (FN), which she took over six years ago from her father Jean-Marie Le Pen. In fact this was the best 'far right' election result since the Second World War, slightly obscured by the fact that many had expected an even better vote closer to 30%.

Marine Le Pen had led in almost every opinion poll since last summer (apart from a brief poll boost for conservative rival François Fillon at the end of last year). Fillon was fatally damaged by financial scandal during February-March 2017, and 'respectable' opinion rallied behind the new kid on the block, former Rothschild banker turned civil servant Emmanuel Macron, who created his own 'centrist' party only five months before the election and won the first round with 24.0%



Prime Minister Theresa May has called a snap General Election hoping for a mandate for Brexit combined with multi-racialism, frustrating those patriotic voters who expected that last year's referendum would lead to tougher immigration rules.

While Mme Le Pen is expected to lose the second round run-off to Macron, she has established a solid political base for her next presidential challenge in 2022, when she will still be only 53 and must then have a strong chance of becoming Europe's first elected nationalist leader in over seventy years. Most importantly, old-style politics – and in particular old-style conservatism – has been killed off. Fillon was not only personally disgraced but politically bankrupted – there will be no Thatcher-style hijacking of the French National Front's agenda.

The second round reflects the central political division of the 21st century: globalism (Macron) versus national sovereignty (Le Pen). While the former will almost certainly win on May 7th, the future belongs to the latter. Marine Le Pen has already built her FN power base in the depressed former industrial Haute de France region north of Paris. Across the five *départments* of Haute de France, she polled 31.0%, well ahead of the second-placed Jean-Luc Mélenchon with 19.6%, representing the remains of the French Communist Party and far left. Mélenchon has refused to endorse either second round candidate. Though he would hate to admit it, the logical choice for Mélenchon's millions of working-class supporters, who are the main victims of globalisation, is to vote Le Pen in the second round.

Here in the UK, Prime Minister Theresa May has called a snap general election for June 8th, hoping to capitalise on Labour's disarray and the virtual collapse of the United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP). With the shape of post-Brexit Britain – especially immigration policy – still very uncertain, our political scene is best summed up in the words of Antonio Gramsci, an Italian communist writing in 1930: "The crisis consists precisely in the fact that the old is dying and the new cannot be born; in this interregnum a great variety of morbid symptoms appear."

H&D went to press soon after the general election announcement, and long before nominations were published, but we expect that the three main nationalist parties: NF, BNP and BDP, will contest only a handful of constituencies between them. Even UKIP is likely to scale down its campaign and target very few areas – the party's former leader Nigel Farage and his financial backer Arron Banks are set to launch a 'Patriotic Alliance' soon after June 8th.

On May 4th (a month before the General Election) there are county council elections across much of England, as well as Scottish and Welsh local elections. Six of the English metropolitan areas (which no longer have county councils) will be choosing directly-elected mayors for the first time. The United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP) has most at stake. Almost all of this year's elections are for council seats last contested in 2013, when UKIP made its first serious local election breakthrough, winning 137 county council seats. Four years later their total has been whittled down to 113 due to resignations and by-election defeats, but this is still by far the largest number of county councillors ever held by a party outside the traditional Lib-Lab-Con trio.

Several counties have substantial blocks of UKIP councillors, and had the party continued to progress it ought now to be aiming to advance from being the main opposition in these areas to controlling counties. These potential strongholds include **Kent** (which elected 17 UKIP county councillors in 2013), **Lincolnshire** (16), **Norfolk** (15), **Cambridgeshire** (12), **Hampshire** and **West Sussex** (10 each), and **Essex** (9).

Readers will notice that all these (partly excepting Hampshire) are on the eastern side of England, reflecting the fact that UKIP has underperformed in the Midlands, South West and North of England – especially in this writer's home region, the North West, which at various times has produced success for racial nationalist parties, from the 1970s National Party to the early 2000s BNP and the England First Party in 2006, but where UKIP has achieved little or nothing – even in areas that voted solidly for Brexit.

Merseyside native Paul Nuttall was elected UKIP leader on a promise to rectify this failure and to make UKIP the main opposition to Labour in the post-industrial North and Midlands. While no one believes that UKIP will win any of the new mayoral elections, it will be critical for the party's survival to perform well, especially in **Greater Manchester**, the **West Midlands** and **Tees Valley** (which includes Hartlepool, one of the party's few recent growth areas).

Curiously UKIP has also underperformed in South West England, once seen as a strong eurosceptic area: even in 2013 they elected only four county councillors in **Devon**, three each in **Gloucestershire** and **Somerset**, and none in **Dorset**. **Cornwall** – technically a unitary authority rather than a county council – also has elections on May 4th: in 2013 there were six UKIP councillors elected in Cornwall, but five of these have since resigned leading to by-elections which UKIP lost, leaving the party with only one Cornish councillor (Stephanie McWilliam) in advance of this year's election.

This year there is also a new mayoral election for '**West of England**', an authority covering Bristol, Bath and parts of Gloucestershire and Somerset: again no one expects UKIP to win, but the party's battered morale requires a decent result. UKIP have no Scottish councillors. Four years ago they won one Welsh council seat (in **Vale of Glamorgan**) but he has since quit the party and sits as an independent.

Partly because of local corruption scandals, **Doncaster** in South Yorkshire was for years among the most controversial English councils. In 2009 Peter Davies of the English Democrats won the Don-

caster mayoralty – by far the best election result ever achieved by the EDs – but by 2013 he had quit the party and narrowly lost his bid for re-election as an independent. The entire Doncaster council is up for election this year, alongside the mayoralty.

Traditional British nationalist parties are still marking time, awaiting a new political climate post-UKIP. The British Democratic Party will contest just one county council seat in Leicestershire, while the NF is putting up two candidates in Scotland, one in Wales, and one in Lancashire. The BNP will have twelve council candidates nationwide including Brian Parker in Lancashire, their sole surviving borough councillor.

The **Northern Ireland Assembly** election on March 2nd proved a sad day for all Loyal Ulstermen and their friends across our increasingly Disunited Kingdom. This election was prompted by a scandal of gross financial mismanagement over the Renewable Heat Incentive, a subsidy for farmers and businessmen installing wood pellet-fired boilers at their premises. Arlene Foster (First Minister of Northern Ireland for the past year and leader of the Democratic Unionist Party) had previously been the minister responsible for energy policy, and while there is no suggestion of corruption, she had to take most of the blame for the estimated £400m overspend.

Two parties shamelessly exploited the scandal for partisan advantage: the terror-apologists of Sinn Fein (despite the fact that new SF leader Michelle O'Neill had herself had partial responsibility for the RHI scheme as agriculture minister), and the Official Unionist Party. Predictably only Sinn Fein benefited. Terrorist sympathiser Michelle O'Neill thus took a step closer to becoming First Minister, while the IRA godfathers behind her celebrated yet another own-goal by the Unionist establishment. The DUP's real target was to retain 30 seats – enough to ensure an effective veto power by if necessary raising a "petition of concern" – but they fell two seats short.

The big loser on March 2nd – deservedly – was Official Unionist leader Mike Nesbitt who resigned after the failure of his opportunistic effort to destabilise the DUP. Nesbitt had called on his supporters to give their second preference votes to the nationalist SDLP rather than to the DUP – a shocking betrayal of the unionist interest.

Meanwhile UKIP confirmed their utter irrelevance in Northern Ireland. They contested just one Assembly constituency – **East Antrim** – but this tactic of concentrating resources failed miserably. UKIP candidate and Carrickfergus councillor Noel Jordan was eliminated with just 4.2% of first preference votes. (The Assembly – like Scottish local councils – is elected using the Single Transferable Vote system.)

On March 15th a **general election in the Netherlands** produced acres of liberal newsprint hype, amid exaggerated fears/hopes that Geert Wilders and his anti-Islam Party for Freedom (PVV) would make big gains. Wilders is allied to Marine Le Pen's French National Front and the Austrian Freedom Party in Europe's most successful 'far right' bloc. However unlike the FN and even AFP, Wilders has no ideological roots in traditional nationalism: he is genuinely and fanatically pro-Zionist, and his objection to Islam (aside from his devotion to Israel) seems to be based on the supposed Muslim threat to liberal values. In addition to vocal backing from the pro-Trump website Breitbart, Wilders has been financially supported by former Marxist turned neoconservative David Horowitz, and by other American neocon outfits such as the Middle East Forum, header by Iraq War cheerleader Daniel Pipes.

Nevertheless, to a certain extent electoral support for Wilders can be seen as part of the worldwide 'populist' tide: in this sense a Wilders success would have been broadly welcomed by most racial nationalists as confirmation of a trend encompassing Donald Trump's victory last November, the near-victory of AFP candidate Norbert Hofer in Austria's presidential election last December, and anticipated gains for the FN in France and AfD in Germany later this year.

However the Dutch election proved a slight setback for such hopes/fears. While Wilders and his PVV made five gains and are now the second largest party in the Dutch Parliament with 20 seats, the establishment parties can comfortably lock them out of power. Moreover the PVV's 13% was only a slight advance on the 10.1% achieved in 2012, and below the peak Wilders result of 15.4% at the 2010 election.

Leaders of Alternative for Germany (AfD) at a Berlin press conference on March 10th, launching AfD's draft manifesto for the German general election on September 24th. AfD co-leaders Jörg Meuthen (*left*) and Frauke Petry (*right*), with one of the party's co-founders, 75-year-old Albrecht Glaser (*centre*) a former CDU mayor and Frankfurt councillor.

Having overhyped Wilders' potential in advance, the liberal media went on to overhype the supposedly disappointing result! Dutch prime minister Mark Rutte told his victory rally: "Tonight the Netherlands, after Brexit and the American elections, said 'stop' to the wrong kind of populism."

The underlying reality however is that mainstream Dutch politics (as in most of Europe) remains in deep trouble. Rutte and his conservative coalition partners were forced into mild echoes of some anti-immigration Wilders policies, and even so Rutte's governing VVD slipped from 26.6% to 21.2%. Meanwhile the Dutch Labour Party, whose leaders have been Prime Ministers of the Netherlands for a combined 22 years since the Second World War, collapsed into irrelevance with only 5.7% and nine seats (down from 24.8% and 38 seats at the previous election in 2012). The big winners were the previously fringe far-left party Green Left, who quadrupled their vote from 2.3% to 9.1%. Meanwhile the Socialist Party (whose roots are in 1970s Maoism but has since become a left-wing version of Labour) also polled 9.1%, a fraction down on 2012.

Far from being a reverse of the populist, anti-establishment trend, the Dutch election result in some ways confirmed it. Wilders is not a serious nationalist, and often seems not a serious politician at all, yet his party is the second largest in the Dutch parliament. Like Merkel, Mark Rutte and his assorted conservatives and liberals are clinging on to power without mobilising public enthusiasm. Meanwhile challenges from both left and right are building support, and in a sign that the multicultural, integration-based vision of Europe's leaders is dying, a new party called Denk, specifically appealing to the Turkish-Dutch minority, won three seats.

Angela Merkel has been the one constant feature of European politics for more than a decade, becoming Chancellor of Germany in November 2005, but her craven decision to welcome a tide of 'asylum seekers' in 2015 began an irreversible decline in her fortunes. The next **German general election** on September 24th now looks likely to end Merkel's reign. Increasingly looking a probable successor to Merkel is Martin Schulz of the social-democratic SPD, former President of the European Parliament. Polls during March-April were putting the SPD level with Merkel's CDU-CSU on around 32%. Meanwhile the anti-immigration Alternative for Germany (AfD), created as a moderately Eurosceptic party in 2013 but increasingly radical since 2015, has settled around 10% in the polls, having at times during 2016 looked capable of hitting 15%.

As with the Wilders result, this will be portrayed by the media as a setback, however for a relatively new party – especially one with links to the radical right – to achieve 10% in a nationwide German election would be an impressive result. Moreover, as with Marine Le Pen in France, if the AfD can consolidate a solid electoral base, there are broader political trends acting in its favour. A defeat for Merkel would leave German conservatism in crisis, with her Bavarian CSU coalition partners likely to argue for a more anti-immigrant line and possible future collaboration

with AfD. Any victory for Schulz and the SPD in September might prove pyrrhic, since to achieve power without Merkel he would be forced into an unstable coalition with the Greens and the ex-communist Left Party.

A draft manifesto presented at a Berlin press conference on March 10th by AfD co-leaders Frauke Petry and Jörg Meuthen dared to suggest two policies that have been taboo in German politics since the end of the Third Reich. They propose as "a non-negotiable part of any coalition negotiations" that Germany should adopt a Swiss-style system of citizen-initiated referendums, including a Brexit-style "vote along the British model on whether Germany should stay in the eurozone and, if need be, the EU." Germany's postwar politicians deliberately shied away from referendums, because a series of plebiscites had been employed by Adolf Hitler to consolidate his power and change the Weimar constitution after 1933.

An even bolder challenge to postwar consensus is the AfD manifesto to pledge on 'denaturalisation' – revoking the citizenship of immigrants who become involved with criminal gangs or terrorist supporters within ten years of achieving German citzenship. Both in the Third Reich and communist East Germany, denaturalisation was seen as a weapon against enemies of the government, such as the Jewish scientist Albert Einstein, and consequently the 1949 West German Basic Law prohibited denaturalisation if it would make a former German citizen stateless.

The AfD manifesto also picks up a policy promoted by the Austrian Freedom Party – "negative immigration", meaning that the number of permitted immigrants would be fixed lower than the number of people leaving Germany in any given year. A specific figure of 200,000 net emigrants is mentioned. The AfD is unclear as to whether this would be achieved by voluntary or forced repatriation.

There remains a certain ambivalence about the AfD's attitude to Germany's past. At the Berlin press conference, Meuthen insisted: "We're a party in which certain things are not accepted and that includes National Socialist, anti-Semitic, xenophobic and racist positions – we don't tolerate them." However the AfD's official policy programme states: "The current restriction of German memory culture to the National Socialist era" should be "broken up to make way for a broader view of history." Last October Meuthen's co-leader Frauke Petry (who tends to take a bolder line on various issues) said: "Just as today the First World War is written about in a nuanced way and not just from the perspective of the victor, the Second World War will probably in some decades also need to be discussed in a somewhat more nuanced way than what we experience today."

Ms Petry added in a recent interview that while the obligatory trips to Auschwitz etc. for German students were "important for students to understand what mankind can do to men, ...one should inform them to the same degree that after World War II the Americans allowed German prisoners to die of hunger in the camps on the Rhine meadows." She was referring to the infamous *Rheinwiesenlager*, as exposed by the Canadian historian James Bacque in his 1989 book *Other Losses*, and more recent video documentaries.

The most controversial incident began in January when Björn Höcke, the AfD leader in the state of Thuringia give a speech to a youth conference in Dresden in which he commented that "Germans are the only people in the world who plant a monument of shame in the heart of the capital", referring of course to the Berlin 'holocaust memorial'.

In a *Wall Street Journal* interview, Höcke added: "The big problem is that one presents Hitler as absolutely evil. But of course we know that there is no black and no white in history. And that there are many shades of grey. And there are many sources that allow one to conclude, if one interprets it, that the Second World War didn't necessarily need to become the Second World War if interested powers were not at work and escalated this war. And I think that this will surely, in the coming years and decades, lead to a corresponding reappraisal and will lead to new discussions among historians."

Despite rather pathetic later attempts to reverse some of these statements, Höcke faces proceedings to expel him from AfD: the whole affair has been a distraction which threatened to overshadow the party's manifesto launch, and after weeks of such publicity it is significant that AfD's nationwide support remains around 10%.

Peter Rushton, Manchester, England

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Book Review – *Colin Jordan and Britain's Neo-Nazi Movement: Hitler's Echo* – by Paul Jackson

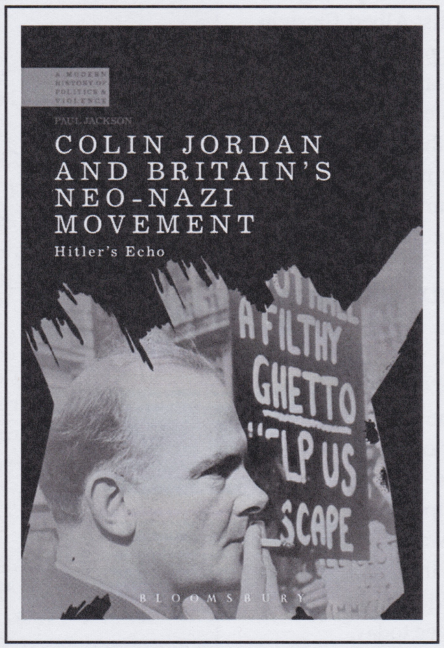
Colin Jordan and Britain's Neo-Nazi Movement, Hitler's Echo, by Paul Jackson, published by Bloomsbury Academic Series, 2016; ISBN: 9781472509314; 293 pages; Hardback; Available for £77.00 (UK including P&P) from Bloomsbury Publishing PLC, 31 Bedford Avenue,London, WC1B 3AT, UK or online from www.bloomsbury.com/uk

The author, Paul Jackson, is a Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Northampton, he is also a regular contributor of lengthy articles to the anti-fascist publication *Searchlight*. Perhaps then this explains why Paul Jackson felt it necessary to dedicate the book to; "Gerry Gable and everybody who has been involved with *Searchlight* magazine over the years. Without all their efforts to record the activities of the extreme right in Britain, this book would simply not have been possible."

Reading this opening line on the first page of the book certainly left me in no doubt as to the level of impartiality and objectivity I might find once I started working through the following chapters. After all, Jackson states in the Introduction that, "In creating a new analysis of Jordan, the chapters that follow attempt to assess his activism in a fair and balanced way."

Fair enough one might say, but then goes on to undermine this suggested objectivity by saying, "This is actually quite difficult, especially when researching a man as clearly objectionable to most people as Jordan"; and further still, "the approach drawn on here does not want to simply demonize Jordan, which many observers would probably find quite easy, especially given the levels of visceral hatred, and many quite outrageous statements, that he expressed towards others throughout his life."

I had hoped for some attempt at balance in terms of the author's points of reference, unfortunately Paul Jackson based all his research in archives held by academic libraries, anti-racist organisations, and mainstream media collections. As far as I can ascertain Jackson did not interview anyone who knew Colin Jordan personally. He did not contact Mrs J. Jordan, British Movement or myself (in my capacity as CJ's biographer) in order to access Colin Jordan's private papers or personal archives and collection of correspondence. He did however make frequent references to my own biography of Colin Jordan, *T'Waz a Good Fight, The Life of Colin Jordan*, and was honest enough to admit that my book, "has been of great help in researching this book too."



The layout of chapters within this history is remarkably similar to the chapter ordering of my biography of Colin Jordan, and without labouring the point too much I do feel that Paul Jackson has attempted to reduce his workload by 'borrowing' extensively from my book. Having said that, the emphasis and interpretation gives to Colin Jordan's actions and motivation differs greatly from mine.

But enough of my basking in reflected glory, I was actually quite surprised by how most of Jackson's book was actually quite accurate and a reasonable history of Colin Jordan's political life.

There were of course frequent lapses into typical leftist criticism of CJ's beliefs and writings, "the issue of extreme, obvious visceral hatred, features manifest in much of Jordan's output."

Sub-headings such as "Hatred and violence; the myth of purity and the licence to hate" make it quite clear as to the personal political stance of the author.

One of the sub-headings in the introduction poses the question, "Why study Colin Jordan?" So with typical neo-liberal angst, Paul Jackson seeks to convince his readers, and possibly himself, as to why he has dedicated himself to researching and writing a history of Colin Jordan.

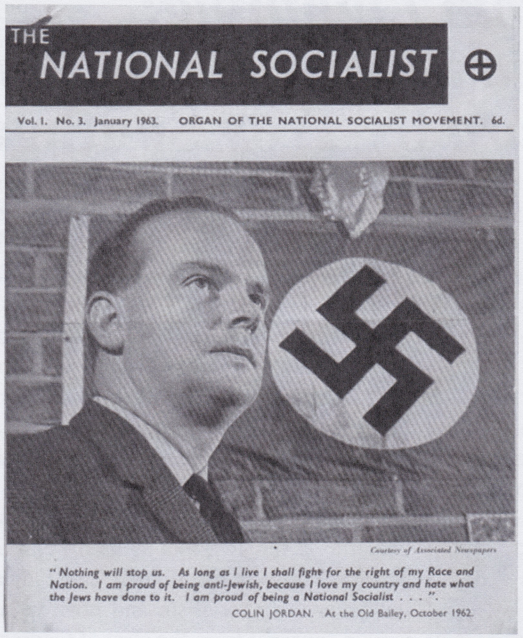
This book is of course intended as a serious academic reference for students of British political and social history and as such Jackson spends most of the first chapter setting out accepted academic definitions of his subject area and analysing what exactly is meant by "fascism" and "racism", which of course means condemning all forms of "fascism" or racially based nationalist politics as being fundamentally wrong. Jackson draws heavily on the work of earlier anti-fascist writers and peppers his early chapters with such heavyweight condemnations as, "fascists [who] conceive of the need for a fundamentally different world have to wrestle with a dissonance between their fantasies of how they feel society ought to be and accepting the reality they engage with it on a daily basis."

The entire book therefore is built around Jackson's anti-fascist stance and the premise that all those who are politically inclined towards 'fascism', racial nationalism or 'neo-Nazism' are not only wrong in their politics but also deluded and divorced from reality. Thereby from the outset Jackson's position is that whatever the trials and tribulations of his life, Colin Jordan's politics were fundamentally wrong.

However, before dismissing his subject out of hand, the author seeks to clarify for his like-minded readers exactly what constitutes a 'neo-Nazi' leading to the first chapter being titled, "A Working Definition of Neo-Nazism" with sub sections headed with a typical leftist attention to detail and the correct political stance before debating the subject, "fascism as an alternate 'way of being' within modernity" and "Fascist political religions and cultic mileus", being two such examples before the author launches into the subject proper and begins a historical account of the political life of Colin Jordan.

Paul Jackson makes it clear that this is a history of Colin Jordan's political life not his life story and therefore the second chapter begins with CJ's wartime service and the immediate post-war period where Colin was a student at Cambridge University. Jackson begins his history proper from the viewpoint that Colin Jordan was not a 'neo-Nazi' from the get-go but developed his "extremist" position over a period of

Colin Jordan (*centre*) with George Lincoln Rockwell and John Tyndall (*left*) at the NSM's famous Cotswold camp in 1962.



The cover of Colin Jordan's NSM journal *The National Socialist*, published soon after Jordan had received a nine-month prison sentence in October 1962.

time, " He used his prejudices to make sense of the confusion he saw in the immediate post-war world, and tried to offer an, albeit extreme, solution."

Throughout the book Jackson cannot avoid the tendency to decry or denigrate the politics of his subject, at times it seems he has to reassure his readers, (his peers?) and possibly himself that he has not lost sight of his initial position that 'racist politics' are wrong. Therefore terminology is employed to maintain a sense of political superiority and for this reviewer an often deliberate intention to denigrate the efforts and intentions of the individuals and organisations he is describing.

Jackson is very fond of using the word "groupuscule" to describe small nationalist organisations and political parties. I am sure that if he was writing about Left-wing organisations or pressure groups he would not use the term at all. At times the use of this terminology descends into the bizarre, for example in his "Working Definition of Neo-Nazism", he refers to, " the neo-Nazi movement tends to be developed by many discrete groupuscules that collectively make up the movement's groupuscular dynamic". Obviously this makes a great deal of sense to an academic political sociologist carefully ensuring that his narrative has the correct analytical position, but for the average reader outside the corridors of the faculty it can be somewhat draining and difficult to follow the author's line of argument.

From Chapter 2 onwards, the book becomes less of a sociological statement and does get into its stride as a fairly conventional history of Colin Jordan's involvement in political organisations, his involvement with the so-called 'Leese Circle', the publications he either established or contributed articles to and his other writings, such as his first published book, *Fraudulent Conversion*.

The following chapters are reasonably thorough and offer a detailed history of Colin Jordan's political activities and his various campaigns. However Paul Jackson does make a number of omissions in his narrative, specifically when it comes to the occasions when Mr Jordan's anti-fascist opponents were involved in acts of criminality. Moreover, Jackson skims over those incidents when CJ was subject to serious acts of violence by his political opposition. This is particularly true when the attackers were known to be members of the notorious '62 Group', an organisation with which *Searchlight* editor Gerry Gable was known to be linked during the 1960s and 1970s. Heaven forbid that Jackson should suggest that his friend Gerry Gable had associated with convicted criminals or had knowledge of criminal acts being perpetrated against Colin Jordan by '62 Group' thugs and burglars.

All the organisations founded by Colin Jordan are discussed and their activities analysed; the White Defence League, the 1960s version of the British National Party, the National Socialist Movement, and of course British Movement, with time taken to examine key events and personalities such as John Tyndall, George Lincoln Rockwell, Savitri Devi and special attention is given to CJ's first wife, Francoise Dior.

The chapters covering Colin Jordan's later years are detailed enough and focus mostly on his published works and his bulletin *Gothic Ripples*. CJ's writings and campaigns from this period are apparently rooted in "A false memory of the past, promoted through Holocaust denial and the elevation of Hess to a hero...." Specifically in regard to his decades long championing of Rudolf Hess and his outrage at the destruction of the Hess Memorial site in Scotland by self-styled anti-nazi activists.

For some reason Jackson devotes a number of pages examining the contents of Colin Jordan's last book, *The Uprising*, which was a work of fiction, but has a more sinister meaning according to Paul Jackson. Indeed Jackson regards *The Uprising* as evidence of Colin Jordan's support for 'Far-Right' terrorism and armed revolution. Jackson concludes that, "Jordan truly believed that by striking a knock-out blow to media and democratic politics, through a revolutionary uprising, the public would be converted to his own cause."

As someone who actually knew Colin Jordan, I can state that this theory is wrong. Colin wrote the book as a little bit of mischief making, a British version of *The Turner Diaries* with much less violence, but with a political message for the reader. *The Uprising* was penned as a provocative piece of fantasy fiction and Paul Jackson and, I suspect, others of his ilk have analysed it far too deeply.

At the end of his book Paul Jackson offers a lengthy conclusion, giving the reader a summary of Colin Jordan's political contribution to post-1945 British nationalism and his potential legacy for future generations of political and ideologically motivated activists: "He functions as an inspirational guru for those activists who see no possibility for achieving power through an electoral process"; and of course Jackson falls back on his Marxist jargon, offering this almost untranslatable piece of sociological babble: "Jordan's life reveals a picture of neo-Nazism as an inherently transitional phenomenon, as well as one developed through a series of unstable British-based groupuscules, that all helped to create a vibrant though marginalized groupuscular dynamic."

As is to be expected from the author's viewpoint, Colin Jordan was part of an ongoing political movement that is completely unacceptable and the closing sentences from the final page are worth reproducing here for no other reason than to let other racial Nationalists see how 'they' view us.

Neo-Nazism is a milieu that seeks to authorize in others activity that is not only frequently steeped in the most extreme racism, but is also ultimately driven by a belief in the need for armed revolution to overthrow liberal democracy, when 'the time is right'. It is never likely to succeed in this ambition, but this does not prevent the marginalized few, inspired by the vision evoked by the life and ideas of a figure like Jordan, from manifesting some form of danger to wider society in the future.

All in all I found the book to be interesting and worth reading in order to glean an insight into how a committed anti-fascist academic would treat the story of Colin Jordan. If I expected the promised balanced treatment of the topic I was quickly disappointed, Jackson frequently uses variations of the phrase, "the visceral nature of his hatred towards others who did not share his vision of the future."

I found the introductory chapters with the lapses into Marxist analysis tedious and I think that most readers of *Heritage and Destiny* would find the lumbering distorted language so beloved of Left-wing historians and sociologists off-putting and boring. I personally learned nothing new about Colin Jordan or his political thinking from this book, but learned plenty about the mindset of his critics.

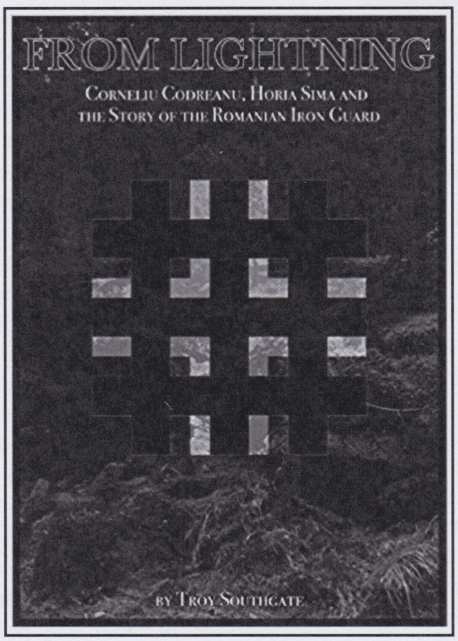
The review copy I received was the hardback edition, I do not think that the book is available in softcover or paperback. However interesting the contents of this history, I do think that most *Heritage and Destiny* readers will baulk at the thought of spending £60 to obtain a copy.

Stephen L. Frost, Yorkshire, England

Book Review - *From Lightning: Corneliu Codreanu, Horia Sima and the Story of the Romanian Iron Guard* by Troy Southgate

From Lightning: Corneliu Codreanu, Horia Sima and the Story of the Romanian Iron Guard by Troy Southgate. Published by Black Front Press, 2016; ISBN: 9780993170348; 329 pages; Paperback; Signed copies are available from Troy Southgate for 20 EUROS with free postage to anywhere in the world. The PayPal address is blackfrontpress@yahoo.co.uk or order from www.amazon.co.uk

In 2015 a new English-language edition of Corneliu Codreanu's autobiography *For My Legionaries* was published, with an introduction by Dr Kerry Bolton. Now Troy Southgate (who brought out his own edition of this text in 2013) has produced a detailed historical study of Codreanu, his successor Horia Sima and their Romanian nationalist movement – the Legion of the Archangel Michael, better known as the Iron Guard.



Paradoxically Codreanu's reputation has suffered among many British nationalists from the very fact that he was promoted as a hero/messiah by one particular faction of young NF activists during the 1980s. Influenced by Italian exiles Roberto Fiore and Massimo Morsello, and centred on Nick Griffin (then in his 20s) and the more ideological Derek Holland, this faction is best remembered for the promotion of Codreanu's "cadre" strategy, first outlined in his 1933 text *The Nest Leader's Manual*.

Sadly the NF's cadre faction achieved little beyond inciting a near-terminal split, which in turn prompted further splits among the ensuing fragments. Its one positive legacy is the prolific author Troy Southgate, who joined the NF cadres as a youth. Some authors (including Ian Freeman in *H&D* 33) have lamented that Mr Southgate came into the movement at the wrong time and joined the wrong faction. However another way of looking at things is to say that by joining the doomed cadres, Mr Southgate was saved from wasting his time as a councillor or *apparatchik* in a temporarily more successful party!

Certainly this new book confirms that the council chamber's loss has been the broader movement's intellectual gain. Mr Southgate succeeds in rescuing Codreanu from what the English semi-Marxist historian Edward Thompson famously termed "the enormous condescension of posterity".

For many modern readers – perhaps even for some *H&D* readers – the Iron Guard founder's anti-Jewish rhetoric seems a bizarre, inexplicable and eccentric obsession. Yet in his own time (as Mr Southgate points out) such views were widely shared. In 1898, a year before Codreanu's birth, the prominent Romanian novelist Mina Savel wrote that for "someone to be an antisemite today ...means to be a devoted fighter against a materialist current that puts money above honour, virtue and the highest sentiments worthy of human nature. At the same time, to be an antisemite is to be a martyr and defender of one's nation, of the rights and institutions that, together with the spirit of liberty, contribute to the progress of a nation. An antisemite fights not only against Yids, but also against those Judaized people who support them."

Immediately after the First World War, with Central and Eastern Europe under obvious threat from (usually Jewish-led) communist movements engaged in often bloody subversion, there was a natural resistance from conservatives, nationalists and Christians. Inspired by Mussolini, some of these attempted to form an 'Italian-Romanian National Fascist Movement' in 1922, but this collapsed within two years, and in Mr Southgate's view was crippled by personality clashes and links to reactionaries in Romanian government circles. (One should remember that *Il Duce* inspired reactionaries as well as radicals across Europe: today's Tory backbenchers in the British Parliament still call themselves the 1922 Committee because their forebears were inspired by the success of Mussolini's March on Rome to take a stand for 'real' Conservatism and defy their timid leaders!)

The roots of the Iron Guard can be traced back earlier, to pre-First World War nationalist publications and parties organised by journalist Nicolae Iorga and Professor Alexandru Constantin Cuza. The latter took a more hardline stance on the Jewish question and broke away to form the National Christian Union in 1922, renamed the following year as the National-Christian Defence League.

The young student Codreanu joined Prof. Cuza's breakaway party, which took the swastika as its official emblem. Tension between reactionary and radical ideas (or between imperialism and positive nationalism) is apparent from the start of Codreanu's activism. Mr Southgate writes: "Fanatically loyal but tragically misguided, Codreanu's principled and unwavering support for the Romanian monarchy would later prove to be his undoing."

This reflection is prompted by Codreanu's own memory of his student activism at the reopened University of Iași, where Prof. Cuza taught: "A few of us who were still trying to man the barricades were surrounded by an atmosphere of scorn and enmity. ...Thousands of students in meeting after meeting in which Bolshevism was propagated, attacked Army, justice, Church, Crown."

Outside the university campus, young Codreanu and his fellow nationalists perceived that Bolshevism's appeal to industrial workers had to be countered not just by reactionary strikebreaking but by a positive "National-Christian Socialist" programme. (Bear in mind that this was long before Adolf Hitler's national socialists came to prominence.)

Codreanu advised a comrade: "It is not enough to defeat Communism. We must also fight for the rights of the workers. They have a right to bread and a right to honour. We must fight against the oligarchic parties, creating national workers' organisations which can gain their rights within the framework of the state and not against the state."

A National-Christian Socialist creed committed Codreanu's group to "nationalising factories (the property of all workers) and distributing the land among all the ploughmen". Alongside this pro-worker orientation, Codreanu and his fellow students committed themselves to an uncompromising anti-Jewish outlook. After he graduated in 1922, Codreanu's fellow students pledged an "Obligation of Honour" which concluded that as "the Romanian people finds itself menaced in its very existence by an alien people that grabbed our land and tends to grab the leadership of the country, ...we determinedly rise around a new and sacred ideal, that of defending our fatherland against Jewish invasion."

Moving on to Berlin to study politics, Codreanu first became aware of Adolf Hitler in October 1922. Mr Southgate (as readers of his other publications will know) is a stern critic of Hitler, and is keen to emphasise the ways in which Codreanu's movement differed from both German national socialism and Italian fascism – notably in decision-making based on a collegiate forum of legionary commanders, as opposed to a *Führerprinzip*. Furthermore, Mr Southgate argues that Adolf Hitler's government was partly responsible for Codreanu's death. In 1938 the corrupt King Carol II (notorious for his association with a cabal of Jewish businessmen and Jewish mistress Mme Lupescu) visited Hitler at the Berghof and (according to Mr Southgate) returned confident that

the Third Reich "was not at all interested in helping the plight of the nationalist movement in Romania, [so] set about murdering and jailing hundreds of Legionaries".

This reviewer takes a slightly different view. As with the Strasserite critique of Hitler's domestic priorities, it seems to me that Mr Southgate and his ideological soulmates have an unrealistic and romantic attitude of what even a revolutionary leader can be expected to achieve, without risking the early demise of his regime.

In the case of Romania, German support for radical nationalism would surely have incited Britain to intervene (at least diplomatically if not militarily) in support of Romania's reactionary and semitically-permeated establishment. The late Jürgen Rieger pointed out in one of his last published essays that Britain had vital economic interests in Romania – especially in the oil industry – and that Romania was materially far more important to Britain than Poland would ever be.

In March 1939 the Romanian ambassador in London, Viorel Tilea, succeeded in panicking Neville Chamberlain and his Foreign Secretary Lord Halifax with a false story that Germany was militarily blackmailing the Romanian government. It was against this background that Chamberlain was pushed into an increasingly anti-German policy.

As Rieger stressed, Tilea's story about German intervention in Romania in 1939 was false: so imagine what would have happened if (as Mr Southgate implicitly recommends) Germany had genuinely intervened in support of Codreanu in 1938. Perhaps more than anywhere else in Europe, Romania was packed with British agents (many recruited via freemasonry and business contacts), who by the end of the 1930s operated through Section D of MI6, which eventually became the core of the wartime Special Operations Executive (SOE).

Corneliu Codreanu (*right*) in 1935 with his one-time ally Marshal Ion Antonescu, Romania's wartime dictator who suppressed the Iron Guard in 1941 after a rebellion led by Codreanu's successor Horia Sima.

Codreanu had progressed quickly from student firebrand to serious revolutionary threat. Returning from his few months of Berlin studies in March 1923, Codreanu joined his academic mentor Prof. Cuza and fellow student radicals in forging the National-Christian Defence League (LANC). This was one of numerous fascist/anti-communist groups in Romania at that time, but LANC was particularly militant not only in opposing Bolshevik-inspired strikes and student leftism, but in a fundamental stance against the Liberal government's proposals to extend the civil rights of Jews. As Codreanu put it: "Giving this privilege of meddling in Romania's public affairs to as high as two million Jews, and to the just-settled Jew on our land, the right of equality with the Romanian who lived on this land for millennia, was both an injustice crying to high heaven and a great national menace that could not but worry and profoundly shake every Romanian who loved his country."

LANC's assumption was that the government's pro-Jewish measures could only be opposed by direct action, since political and media corruption would otherwise ensure that these measures were sneaked onto the statute book. Sure enough legislation was passed through Parliament with unseemly haste before LANC's demonstrators were even mobilised, but a series of violent rallies went ahead, with Codreanu in the thick of the fighting.

To an extent difficult for modern readers to comprehend, universities were the centre of struggle against increasing Jewish influence in Romania. 45 years later European students on barricades across campuses were the vanguard of a social revolution that changed our entire culture, but in 1923 it was the anti-Jewish and patriotic movement that was acting as a militant Romanian student vanguard.

During the autumn of 1923, faced with increasingly obvious betrayal by the political elite, Codreanu and his fellow student radicals determined on a violent uprising involving the assassination of several government ministers and other key figures. Rather than anti-Jewish pogroms, the targets would be treacherous fellow-Romanians. As Codreanu put it: "If I had but one bullet and I were faced by both an enemy and a traitor, I would let the traitor have it."

Codreanu and several comrades were betrayed by an informer in their ranks and arrested, but (perhaps surprisingly) were acquitted after a brilliant legal defence by one of their academic supporters, Prof. Paulescu. Mr Southgate goes on to detail various political, factional and legal travails as Codreanu attempted to build a movement – eventually creating the Legion of the Archangel Michael (inspired by an icon he had seen in a prison chapel) in May 1927.

This Legion (or Iron Guard) differed from other interwar nationalist/fascist movements in that, as Mr Southgate puts it, "the Iron Guard was based neither on the plebeian values of democracy nor on the cruelty and oppression that one ordinarily attributes to dictatorship. Ironically, Codreanu believed that Legionarism was a new form of politics through which the will of ordinary people is reflected by the example of a dedicated cadre of young activists. Not in the narrow, representational manner of the Bolsheviks and their so-called 'dictatorship of the proletariat', but by allowing people to actually participate in a Movement that essentially becomes a living manifestation of their basic needs and aspirations."

In 1931, with government in the hands of Prof. Cuza's former ally Nicolae Iorga, now a corrupt reactionary conservative, the Legion (officially dissolved after yet further coup plots and trials but reformed under a front name) won a sensational by-election in Neamt, a picturesque region in the Carpathian mountains.

Mr Southgate explains that this and later political successes merely intensified the brutality of the Legion's opponents, with many of the worst attacks coming from conservatives rather than the Left. In response Codreanu developed his theory of cadre organisation, underpinned by a spiritual character that is easily mocked in our post-religious age. His "Nine Legionary Rules" ended thus: "The Legionary fears no one but God, sin, and the moment when physical or spiritual strength fails and he must withdraw from the fight. The Legionary loves Death, for his blood will serve to form the cement of Legionary Romania."

In 1938 the reactionary Iorga government jailed Codreanu for slander and sedition, and in November that year (under the pretence that they had been attempting to escape) the Iron Guard leader and several of his comrades were strangled by prison guards and their bodies disposed of. Mr Southgate's book concludes with a couple of chapters examining the post-Codreanu Iron Guard under Horia Sima, whom he accuses of inept leadership and betrayal of the Codreanu legacy. He also has harsh words for Codreanu's former ally, the wartime dictator Marshal Ion Antonescu, writing that "Antonescu's 'nationalist' credentials had all but dissipated in a furious orgy of bloodshed and persecution."

As today's European nationalists seek to define themselves, and to distinguish a genuine nationalist ideology from reactionary opportunism and ignorant Islamophobia, Troy Southgate's new study of Codreanu's struggle will act as both warning and inspiration. Some readers might be more sympathetic than the author to the political and diplomatic dilemmas facing Adolf Hitler; others may be disturbed by Codreanu's religious intensity and uncompromising hostility to Jews. It's unfortunate that a book with so much detail lacks an index, but aside from this omission *From Lightning* is strongly recommended to *H&D* readers.

Peter Rushton, Manchester, England

Hendrik Frensch Verwoerd: South Africa's Greatest Prime Minister, Part IV

Editor's note: Part III of this article appeared in H&D *Issue 77*

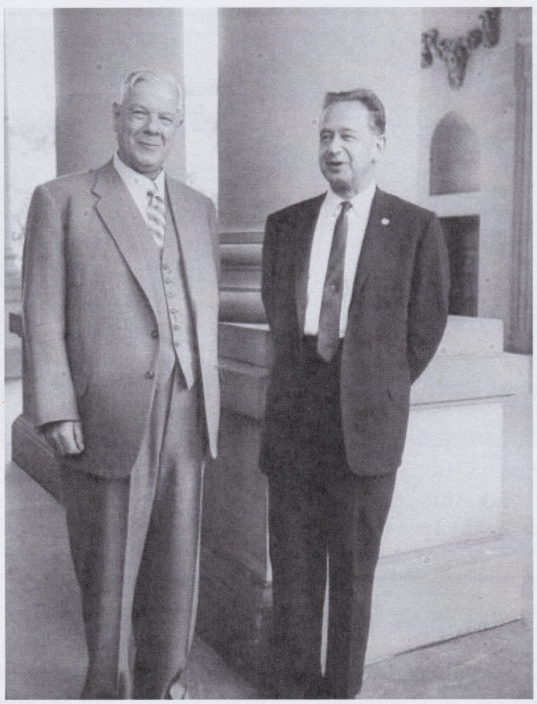
In his address to the March 1961 Commonwealth Conference in London, Dr. Verwoerd said: "I do, however, wish to state that it is ironical that those allegations have come from Prime Ministers in whose countries oppression and discrimination are openly practised and where the basic principles of democratic government are flouted. In this connection I refer in particular to Ghana, India, Malaya and Ceylon, although certain other Commonwealth countries are also not free from such practices which are sanctioned by legal enactments".[135] Dr. Verwoerd also found the attitude of Canada immature – "if you find a group of nations which cannot come together and forget their differences, then I think you are acting like a child".[136]

In his closing words Dr. Verwoerd said that:

"The practices which have led to the present unsatisfactory conditions prevailing in the United Nations will, I venture to predict, lead to the eventual disintegration of the Commonwealth, which all would regret".[137]

By withdrawing South Africa's application, Dr. Verwoerd took the only statesmanlike option open to him, and when he returned to South Africa he received a tumultuous welcome from a crowd of over 50,000 supporters at Jan Smuts airport, Johannesburg.

From 6-12 January 1961 the Secretary General of the United Nations, Dag Hammarskjöld, visited Dr. Verwoerd for extended discussions. The talks lasted six days and included a visit to the Transkei. Mr. Hammarskjöld was very impressed by the honest and positive steps which Dr. Verwoerd was taking in order to resolve South Africa's racial relationships.[138] From a South African point of view the visit was deemed to have been a great success. A second visit was scheduled to take place, but Mr. Hammarskjöld was killed in a mysterious airplane crash[139] near Ndola, Northern Rhodesia on 18 September 1961. When he died, Dr. Verwoerd recalled that Mr. Hammarskjöld had "grasped the position in this country" and that "he had not been afraid of the truth". He lamented the fact that South Africa "had lost a friend".[140]



Dr H.F. Verwoerd (*left*) with UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld in January 1961.

Early in February 1961 a naïve and irresponsible Swedish authoress, Sara Lidman, was arrested, together with Peter Nthite, the National Organising Secretary of the African National Congress, at her flat in Johannesburg for having transgressed the Immorality Act. After Mr. Hammarskjöld contacted Dr. Verwoerd, the charges were dropped and she left South Africa.[141]

In November and December 1947 Field Marshal Montgomery, who was at that time Chief of the Imperial General Staff, visited eleven African countries. Thereafter he produced a top secret master plan based on the injection of large numbers of White men with brains who would develop these colonies and which would act as a bulwark against communism. These territories would also be aligned with the Union of South Africa. In his report he said that "There will be many people in the UK who will oppose such a plan on the grounds that the African will suffer in the process; there is no reason why he should suffer, and in any case he is a complete savage and is quite incapable of developing the country himself". Montgomery's plan was rejected by the Labour government, who had their own plans for selling out these territories to the international bankers. In his response Montgomery said "It is obvious we disagree … Time will tell which of us was right".[142] In November 1959 Field Marshal Montgomery visited South Africa as a private citizen for two weeks. He said that the purpose of his visit was "to give the lie to a great many things which are being said about what is going on in this country".[143] On 26 November 1959, accompanied by his wartime chief of staff, Major General Sir Francis de Guingand, Montgomery had a two hour conversation with Dr. Verwoerd in Pretoria. Afterwards he said that the meeting had been a "pleasant surprise… this obviously sincere, quiet-spoken and kindly man. He impressed me as a leader, a man of decision and action".[144] Before sailing for England he said that "he had the greatest admiration for Dr. Verwoerd".[145]

There were further visits by Field Marshal Montgomery in June 1961 and in 1962 when a dinner, which included 28 guests, was held in his honour at the Dr. Verwoerd's Cape Town residence, Groote Schuur, on 25 January 1962 and on 13 February 1963 when Montgomery had tea with Dr. Verwoerd.[146]

On 11 October 1961 at the United Nations, Israel cast a vote of censure against Foreign Minister Eric Louw's speech, in which he had defended South Africa's policy of separate development. In reply to a letter received from a Jewish professional man, Mr A.S.A. East, who tried to justify Israel's vote against South Africa, Dr. Verwoerd replied that South Africa had always "had a feeling of sympathy for Israel and general preparedness to co-operate was noticeable in South Africa amongst all sections". He was irked, if not betrayed, by the hypocrisy of Israel and raised the rhetorical question as to "why, if Israel and its Rabbis feel impelled to attack the policy of separate development here, the policy of separate development of Israel is not wrong in their eyes as well.[147] He said that it was "a tragedy for Jewry in South Africa" and drew attention to the fact that so many Jews had voted for the Progressive Party and not for the National Party in the recent general election. He also said that South Africa did not want "to oppress, but that it is correct that we wish to differentiate and separate where there are fundamental differences, whether they are symbolised by colour or not. For that reason we believed in the separate State of Israel, but now begin to wonder whether that support should be withdrawn if, according to their own convictions, the ideal of separate development is fundamentally wrong".[148]

Without obtaining Dr. Verwoerd's permission this private correspondence was revealed in the press and produced a strong reaction. However, Dr. Verwoerd was unmoved and at a conference of the National Party Witwatersrand Executive he defended his point of view when he asked "What is the value of the so called threat in the letter? If I want to threaten the Jews of South Africa, I will threaten the whole lot of them".[149]

The following year when Israel again voted against South Africa's domestic policies at the United Nations, the South African Jewish Board of Deputies immediately issued a statement deploring Israel's stand and affirming its loyalty to South Africa.

In August 1966 a delegation of Jews had an appointment with Dr. Verwoerd. They appeared to be quite animated. However, the conversation did not last long and a somewhat dejected group exited Dr

Verwoerd's office after they had seemingly failed in their objective to persuade Dr. Verwoerd to change his policy.[150]

In January 1962 Dr. Verwoerd announced at the opening of parliament that the Transkei, a territory of 43,798 km² (16,911 sq mi) in the north east of the Cape Province, would attain self-government the following year. (Independence would follow 13 years later in 1976). Chief Kaiser Matanzima, chairman of the Transkeian Territorial Authority, declared: "To the people of the Transkei, wherever they are, the Prime Minister's statement is highly welcomed and will be received with excitement. It is significant of the policy enunciated 13 years ago, and the stage has been attained, and reflects the honesty of the Government".[151] He said that he had already won back many ex-antagonists to the system of Bantu self-government. For the White liberals, Chief Matanzima had nothing but disdain, stating that: "The White liberals are not sincere. They are there to mislead us, with the purpose of keeping us down so that we will never rise".[152]

On 18 January 1963 Chief Matanzima was interviewed by Independent Television for the programme *Roving Report*. He informed the British television audience that apartheid was "the best solution for the whole world". He referred to racial conflict between Black and White in Britain, the United States and Southern Rhodesia and said that : "This shows that if people can be kept separate and have their own administrations, the relationship will be better".[153] He denied that he was a stooge of the White man and said that the majority of Africans in South Africa supported his policy". He was full of praise for Dr. Verwoerd and described him as "the greatest leader who has emerged among White South Africans".[154]

Chief Matanzima (*left*) of the Transkei (seen here in 1972 with Verwoerd's successor B.J. Vorster) shocked international liberal opinion by telling a British television interviewer that apartheid was "the best solution for the whole world".

Since 1884 South West Africa had been ruled by Imperial Germany, which had the distinction of being one of the ablest and fairest colonial administrators in Africa.[155]

On 31 August 1914 almost four weeks after Great Britain had declared war on Germany, Brigadier-General Tim Lukin landed at Port Nolloth, situated in the north western corner of South Africa, with 2,420 soldiers. They proceeded to Steinkopf on the border with German South West Africa and waited for Generals Botha and Smuts to give the signal to commence the invasion. On the night of 14- 15 September Smuts, who was Minister of Defence gave the signal and Lieutenant-Colonel F.S. Dawson with the 4th South African Mounted Rifles crossed the Orange River at Raman's Drift and engaged the Germans stationed there. General Lukin crossed the Orange River at the same place with the rest of the invading force of volunteers.[156] The primary purpose of the invading army was not to seize the powerful wireless transmitters at Lüderitzbucht and Swakopmund, but to secure the diamond fields along the southern coast for Ernest Oppenheimer, who was the principal representative in South Africa of the Rothschild banking group.[157]

On 9 July 1915 the South African expeditionary force of 67,000 soldiers, under the command of General Louis Botha, defeated the much smaller German army of 8,000 soldiers, including 3,000 *Schutztruppe* (protection force), led by General Victor Franke.

On 28 June 1919 at the Peace Conference at Versailles, South Africa was awarded South West Africa as a class C mandate. This allowed the territory to be administered under the laws of the Mandatory as an integral part of its own territory. Since the granting of the mandate, South West Africa was ruled as a fifth province of South Africa. From 1950 white voters were represented by four members of parliament and six senators in the South African parliament.

The League of Nations dissolved itself on 18 April 1946. South Africa did not recognise any United Nations jurisdiction and refused to place the territory under the latter's trusteeship and thus continued to rule it under the terms of its League of Nations mandate. This decision was endorsed by a referendum held during May and June of the same year when 208,850 or 85.5% of the tribal population in a voter turnout of 242,370 or 81.1% of the eligible voters, voted in favour of becoming part of South Africa.[158]

Over the following years committees of the United Nations drew up numerous reports containing accusations of racial discrimination, oppression, militarisation of the territory and genocide. There were also demands that its inhabitants be granted self-determination. All these reports and demands for information and particulars about the administration of South West Africa were ignored.

The indigenous population and its leaders were strongly in favour of continued White rule. While he was Minister of Bantu Affairs, Dr. Verwoerd visited the territory. He was welcomed by a crowd of over 20,000[159] many of whom had travelled on foot to see in person the man whom they believed would be capable of providing them all with a better life.[160] One of the main leaders of the Ovambo people, Ananias Shapeka, who had been a member of Windhoek's Non-European Advisory Council since 1933 and who was considered to be the "father" of the detribalised Ovambos, believed implicitly in separate development of the different racial groups. He said that: "God has made us separate entities, not the Government, and for that reason, it must stay like that. We do not wish to intermarry with Europeans. That is a sin".[161] He also warned that if South West Africa became independent the tribes would exterminate each other as in pre-colonial times, as the Non-European tribes despised each other. He had nothing but contempt for the future puppet leader of Namibia, Sam Nujoma, describing him as a child and a "little upstart".[162]

A half-brother of the Chief of the Hereros Hosea Kutako, Aaron Mungunda, who considered himself to be the real leader of the Hereros and had also been a member of the Non-European Advisory Board since 1925, expressed similar sentiments, saying that only White rule prevented bloodletting. He said that the Black man in South Africa had developed more than in any other country in Africa, "and even overseas" and wanted to know "In what other country is the Black man better off than here?"[163] As far as the pass laws were concerned, he felt that they should not be abolished under any circumstances and said that he himself carried a pass, which he looked upon as an "identity certificate".

Richard Forster, the leader of the Griquas, declared that "It is surprising to hear people still speak of oppression of the non-Whites in South West Africa. The non-Whites have made such rapid progress that they already use English as their first language in the street".[164]

In June 1958, notwithstanding the fact that the United Nations had no custodial function over the mandate, the South African government permitted a delegation of the General Assembly's SWA committee under the chairmanship of Sir Charles Arden-Clarke, a former governor of Nigeria, to visit the territory. The delegation toured South West Africa extensively and had discussions with Dr. Verwoerd. They

were very impressed with what was being undertaken and reported that there were no signs of the serious allegations, such as the existence of military bases, which had been made against South Africa. The fourth committee of the General Assembly was so enraged with the favourable report of the Arden-Clarke committee that it was immediately disbanded and nothing further was heard of its positive findings.[165]

In May 1962 in a master stroke of diplomacy, Dr. Verwoerd granted a two man United Nations special committee on South West Africa permission to visit the territory. No restrictions were placed on their movements and on the people they wished to meet. The chairman and vice-chairman were Dr. Vittorio Carpio of the Philippines and Dr. Salvador Martinez de Alva of Mexico respectively. Just before the completion of their ten day mission the two United Nations' representatives had a meeting with Dr. Verwoerd in Pretoria, after which they issued a joint statement. In this statement it was declared that South Africa was absolved from any serious misconduct, that there was no oppression or evidence of the native population being exterminated, no signs of militarisation in the territory and that no evidence had been found of any threat to international peace.[166]

Dr Verwoerd at the inauguration of the first President of South Africa C.R. Swart (*seated right*), after departure from the Commonwealth in 1961. From this point until P.W. Botha's 1984 constitutional reforms which brought in an executive presidency, South Africa's head of state was a ceremonial position.

On his return to New York Dr. Carpio found himself in very hot water and was forced to retract his joint statement and redraft his report so that South West Africa appeared to be one of the hell holes of Africa. Dr. Carpio claimed that Dr Verwoerd had lured and pressured him into signing the statement. He also alleged that his coffee had been poisoned in Pretoria. Meanwhile Dr. Carpio's fellow committee member, Dr. de Alva, stood by the original report which he said was accurate, and the whole mission was allowed to degenerate into a farce of comical proportions.[167]

On 4 November 1960 Ethiopia and Liberia,[168] acting as front men on behalf of the international bankers, brought a case against South Africa in the International Court of Justice in The Hague alleging that the League of Nations mandate still existed, and that South Africa had failed to promote the interests of its inhabitants, and had therefore forfeited its rights to continue its mandate.[169] These arguments were prepared by Professor Vernon Mackay of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace[170] who also worked for the CIA.

That Ethiopia was one of the plaintiffs bordered on the theatre of the absurd for the following reasons:–

(i) In May 1941 the 1st South African Division of the South African Army led by Major-General George Brink was largely responsible for the liberation of Ethiopia from the Italians.

(ii) Ethiopia was one of the most impoverished countries in the world with a literacy rate of less than 7%.[171]

(iii) Public hangings took place regularly, there was a system of rampant slavery and one third of the national budget was stolen by public officials.[172]

In Liberia, the other plaintiff, an oligarchy of 12,000 former American Negroes lorded it over its hapless 1.2 million inhabitants.[173]

In December 1962 the Court dismissed these objections in a 7-6 vote, a decision which was quite possibly influenced by the Carpio debacle which had taken place earlier in the year.

On 27 January 1964 the Odendaal Commission headed by the Administrator of Transvaal, Frans Hendrik Odendaal, issued its report on the future development of South West Africa. It proposed a five year economic plan at a cost of R152 million and the creation of 12 territorial homelands, one for each ethnic group. The recommendations were adopted by the South African government.[174]

On 6 April 1965 the second phase of the case was resumed. In the strategic planning of the case Dr. Verwoerd played a prominent role.[175] South Africa ably defended its position under the leadership of Advocate David de Villiers and his assistants Pik Botha[176] and Riaan Eksteen. A written presentation of 3,000 pages was made and 15 witnesses out of 38 presented were called. The plaintiffs, led by Advocate Ernest Gross, who was also a member of the secretive Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), alleged that the non-Whites of South West Africa were being deliberately oppressed and exploited, but were not prepared to test these claims under cross examination. These allegations were so comprehensively refuted by the defendant's counsel that the plaintiffs had no other alternative, but to withdraw them.

Three days before the judgment the American ambassador in Pretoria sent the South African government, an aide memoire which stated that it was expected that the different parties would abide by the Court's decision, which the United States said it would be obliged to support. This message was clearly issued on the basis that the decision would be against South Africa and that if South Africa did not comply

Sir Percy Spender, President of the International Court at The Hague, gave the eventual casting vote in favour of South Africa, at the end of a case brought originally in 1960 alleging that Verwoerd's government had forfeited its mandate to govern Namibia.

with it, the infamous war plan[177] of the tax-exempt Carnegie Endowment for International Peace would be implemented.

On 18 July 1966 the Court delivered its judgement. In a 6-6 split decision the president of the Court, Sir Percy Spender of Australia, used his casting vote. He held that Ethiopia and Liberia had not established any interest and had no locus standi in judicio for bringing charges that South Africa had violated its mandate. After the judgement the American ambassador, Arthur Goldberg, debased himself by encouraging the African states in the UNO not to submit to the decision.[178] Nonetheless this judgement was a resounding victory for South Africa, which forced the CIA to employ Plan B. Six weeks later the first terrorist attack took place on the northern border of South West Africa.[179]

Stephen Mitford Goodson, Pringle Bay, South Africa

Editor's note: Part V of this article will appear in H&D *issue 79*

Notes:

[135] *Verwoerd aan die Woord*, edited by Prof. A.N. Pelser, Afrikaanse-Pers Boekhandel, Johannesburg, 1966, p. 504 [Please note that due to a printing error, note 134 was inadvertently omitted from our last issue. This should have read, *Verwoerd aan die Woord*, p 503.]

[136] J. Botha, *op.cit.*, p. 82

[137] *Verwoerd aan die Woord*, *op.cit.*, p. 504.

[138] F. Barnard, *op.cit.*, p. 154

[139] G. Björkdahl, 'I have no doubt Dag Hammarskjöld's plane was brought down', *The Guardian*, 17 August 2011. The writer is of the opinion that the connections of the Belgian mining house, Union Minière, wished to protect their investments by allowing the mineral rich Katanga province to secede from the Congo, in contravention of the United Nations mandate to end the secession. Hammarskjöld had a hole in his head and there is a supposition that he may have survived the crash and been assassinated by a member of the Northern Rhodesian police.

[140] S.E.D. Brown, Nordic Countries 'Afraid To See The Truth about S.A.', says Verwoerd, *The South African Observer*, October 1963, p. 16.

[141] Early in February 1961 a naïve and foolish Swedish authoress, Sara Lidman, was arrested together with Peter Nthite, the National Organising Secretary of the African National Congress at her flat in Johannesburg for having transgressed the Immorality Act. After Mr Hammarskjöld contacted Dr. Verwoerd, the charges were dropped and she left South Africa. F. Hale, *The South African Immorality Act* and Sara Lidman's *Jag och min son?* (*My son and I?*) http://www.scriptageologica.nl/cgi/t/text/get-pdf?c=tvs;idno=2101a04 See also *Verwoerd só onthou ons hom*, compiled by Wilhelm J. Verwoerd, Protea Boekhuis, Pretoria, 2001, B. Fourie, *Buitelandse Sake Onder Dr. Verwoerd*, 128.

[142] R. Schuknecht, *British Colonial Development Policy after the Second World War*, LIT Verlag, Münster, Germany, 2010, 199.

[143] J. Botha, *op.cit.*, 122.

[144] *Ibid.*, 122.

[145] S.E.D. Brown, 'Montgomery To Be Guest Of Verwoerd', *The South African Observer*, October 1963, 16.

[146] A. Boshoff, *Sekretaresse vir die Verwoerds*, Human & Rousseau, Kaapstad, 1974, 80.

[147] S.E.D. Brown, 'Verwoerd Letter Causes Stir In Israel and S.A.', *The South African Observer*, December 1961, 16.

[148] *Ibid.*, 16.

[149] B. Bunting, *The Rise of the South African Reich*, Penguin Books Ltd, London, 1969, 43-44.

[150] J.A. Marais, *op.cit.*, 176.

[151] S.E.D. Brown, '"A Day Of Jubilation," Says Transkei Chief', *The South African Observer*, February 1962, 7.

[152] *Ibid.*, 7.

[153] S.E.D. Brown, 'Apartheid "The Best Solution", Says Transkei Chief', *The South African Observer*, February 1963, 15.

[154] *Ibid.*, 15.

[155] C. Nordbruch, 'Genocide of the Hereros? Black tribe in Namibia demands German reparations for what respected author says is non-existent genocide', *The Barnes Review*, Vol. XVIII No. 6, Washington, D.C., November/December 2012, 22-32.

[156] L. J. Bothma, *Rebelspoor: Die aanloop, verloop en afloop van die Boereopstand van 1914-15*, Self-published, Langenhovenpark, Orange Free State, 2015, 169-170.

[157] *Ibid.*, 403, 410-411.

[158] J. Botha, *op.cit.*, 231.

[159] At that time South West Africa had a population of 1,000,000. Thus 20,000 would have represented 7.5% of the adult male Black population.

[160] J.J.J. Scholtz, Die Moord op Dr Verwoerd, Nasionale Boekhandel Bpk, 1967, 79.

[161] S.E.D. Brown, 'An Independent S.W.A. "Would Become Second Congo" Says Ovambo Leader', *The South African Observer*, May 1962, 13-14.

[162] *Ibid.*, 14. In 2015 28.7% of the population was living in poverty, while the official unemployment rate was recorded at 29.9%, although unofficially it is believed to be as high as 50%. http://www.na.undp.org/content/namibia/en/home/library/poverty/nimdpovmao2015.html In 2013 the Gini Co-efficient, which measures the distribution of income among individuals, stood at 63.9, one of the highest and worst in the world.

[163] S.E.D. Brown, 'Presence Of Whites In S.W.A Prevents Conflicts, Says Herero', *The South African Observer*, May 1962, 13.

[164] S.E.D. Brown, 'Apartheid In S.W.A. "Is Just", Chief Tells U.N.', *The South African Observer*, April 1963, 11.

[165] *Verwoerd só onthou ons hom*, *op.cit.*, 130.

[166] F. Barnard, *op.cit.*, 155 and J. Botha, *op.cit.*, 227.

[167] S.E.D. Brown, 'U.N. Mission That Miscarried The Carpio Comedy – A Victory For South Africa', *The South African Observer*, July 1962, 1-2.

[168] Ethiopia and Liberia were used as plaintiffs as they had been members of the League of Nations.

[169] Although not obligatory South Africa had continued to rule South West Africa in terms of its original mandate.

[170] P.J. Pretorius, *op.cit.*, 167.

[171] D.H. Shinn & T.P. Ofcansky, *Historical Dictionary of Ethiopia*, Scarecrow Press Inc., Lanham, Maryland, 2013, 302. This was the rate in 1974 and was probably even lower in 1962.

[172] S.E.D. Brown, No Longer Any Honesty, Says Waring, *The South African Observer*, November 1962, 14.

[173] S.E.D. Brown, '"Die Burger" Lectures Government On U.N. Approach', *The South African Observer*, August, 1963, 3.

[174] J. Botha, *op.cit.*, 232-233.

[175] *Verwoerd só onthou ons hom*, *op.cit.*, 139.

[176] In 1980 the author attended a meeting of the National Party held in the Johannesburg City Hall and asked Pik Botha if he knew about the Council on Foreign Relations, the Bilderbergers and The Trilateral Commission, and if these organisations were exerting any pressure on South Africa. He replied that he knew about these organisations, but said that they had no influence on South Africa's affairs.

[177] See S.E.D. Brown, 'Carnegie Blueprint For War On South Africa', *The South African Observer*, September 1965, 2, 6-7. This 170 page battle manual was published in August 1965 under the title *Apartheid and United Nations Collective Measures*. In the foreword, the president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Dr Joseph E. Johnson, said that the blueprint had been drawn up because there was an "explosive situation" in South Africa and "the impact that situation may have on the prospects for peace and on the future of the U.N.". It was estimated that the UNO military force would need 30,000 assault soldiers, 60,000 reservists, 3,000 air assault forces, 60 warships, 300 fighter planes, 45 attack transports, 35 support vessels, etc. According to the *Chicago Tribune* of 24 July 1965 there would first be a six month air and naval blockade costing $165,672,000 followed by a 30 day blitzkrieg to turn over the country to the non-Whites, costing $94,537,000. Casualties were estimated at about 500. In an article in the *The South African Observer* of November 1965 written by P.N. James and titled 'More Light on Carnegie Blueprint For War on S.A.', it was revealed that the US Army had cleared the direct military aspects of the intervention. The commandant of the United States Military Academy at West Point Major S.C. Sarkesian was quoted as saying that the blueprint had been undertaken "in the best interests of scholarly research".

[178] J.A. Marais, *op.cit.*, 172.

[179] *Ibid.*, 121.

A New Wave from our ancestors

There's a new kid on the block, well relatively new and its called Nordic-Folkish-Ambient (quite a mouthful but when you listen to some it will fall into place). This genre takes us back to the ancient times of the Norse pagan people and their spiritual music. Exploring and evoking the culture of our forefathers, the established band *Wardruna* uses deer hide frame drums, mouth harp, goat horns, lur, Hardanger fiddle and tagelharpe to show us the music of our past, in a new way.

From the Viking, Anglo Saxon and Dark Ages (600 AD to 1066AD) – the instruments played in the first millennium AD are relatively well understood, and the Folkish bands, duos and soloists have a large range of wind and stringed instruments, including horns, lyres, reedpipes, drums and harps,at their disposal.

Unfortunately, the music itself however has not survived.

With detailed study of ancient musical traditions from the fringes of Europe, including Icelandic Rimur, Finnish Runo-laulu and Kantele playing, Faroese Ballad singing, and Sean Nos singing from Ireland, the musicians behind the genre are recreating a repertoire that is as historically accurate as possible whilst also being atmospheric and engaging to the modern ear.

Swedish singer, songwriter and record producer Karin Andersson (*left*) appears as half of the duo *The Knife*, and solo as *Fever Ray*. (*right*) Einar Selvik (Kvitrafn) of the neo-folk band *Wardruna*, whose music (like Andersson's) often accompanies scenes in the television series *Vikings*.

The music is delivered in a variety of authentic hand sewn costumes. If you need more than music, a full Dark Ages Feast with storytelling, music and dance is part of this Movement.

Hands on workshops exploring this period are also available. The people involved are trying, and succeeding in my view, to recreate not just the sounds of the past, but the ancient Folkish lore that made it possible.

The genre has of course spawned sub-genres. Viking metal is a style of heavy metal music with origins in black metal and Nordic folk music, characterized by a lyrical and thematic focus on Norse mythology, Norse paganism, and the Viking Age. Viking metal is quite diverse as a musical style, to the point where some consider it more a cross-genre term than genre, but it is typically manifested as black metal with influences from Nordic folk music. Common traits include a slow-paced and heavy riffing style, anthemic choruses, use of both clean and harsh vocals, a reliance on folk instrumentation, and often the use of keyboards for atmospheric effect.

Some of the bands:-

Wardruna -- Shamanic Neo Folk band from Norway with an ambient and archaic touch. Heavily focused on the use of old traditional Norse instruments such as keyed fiddles, horns and Norse shamanic drums, as well as chants. Lyrics in Norwegian.

Tenhi -- Neo Folk band from Finland with acoustic guitars, flutes and other traditional instruments, accompanied by a rock drum rhythm. Lyrics in Finnish.

Vali -- Norwegian Neo Folk with acoustic guitars and other traditional instruments. Instrumental.

Nest -- Ambient Neo Folk from Finland with acoustic guitars, kantele, shamanic drums and occasional electric guitars. Lyrics in English.

Neun Welten -- Neo Folk band from Germany. Similar to Tenhi and Vali. Lyrics in German.

October Falls -- Finnish Neo Folk, as well as Black Metal on some albums. Similar to Vali.

And some Neo Folk albums released by Black Metal bands are:

Kveldssanger by Norwegian Folk Black Metal band *Ulver*. Similar to Vali. Lyrics in Norwegian.

Urminnes Havd (The Forest Sessions) by Swedish Viking Metal band *Manegarm*. Lyrics in Swedish.

Origin by Norwegian Black Metal band *Borknagar*. Perfectly blends Neo Folk music with Progressive Rock. Lyrics in English.

Karin Elisabeth Dreijer Andersson (born 7 April 1975 in Nacka, Sweden) is a Swedish singer, songwriter and record producer. She was one half of the electronic music duo *The Knife*, formed with her brother Olof Dreijer. Andersson was previously the vocalist and guitarist of the alternative rock band *Honey Is Cool*. Andersson released her debut solo album under the name *Fever Ray* in 2009. Her vocal style is notable for both shrill and deep tones, and also the use of multitracked vocals, with different uses of pitch-shifting technology on each track, creating an intricate and mysterious effect. Visually, Andersson employs the use of masks, face and body paint, intricate costumes, and other theatrical elements in photo shoots, videos and live performances, during which she often performs behind a gauze screen that partially obscures her from view.

Of the bands and individuals I have been listening to, *Wardruna* and *Fever Ray* stand out, though I am sure there are many who I have yet to discover.

Fever Ray is Karin Andersson solo, taking time off from *The Knife*, the duo she plays with her brother. She produces some totally beautiful music and the videos released are to say the least –STRANGE!

Andersson wrote the music that is featured in the series *Vikings* which is coming up to its fifth season (don't miss it!). Her song, *If I had a heart* plays during the opening credits of the each episode.

Wardruna too provide the music for various scenes with their songs *Axe Time* and others. I have to say though its *Fever Ray* who has captured my imagination. "If I had a heart" is a strange mixture of the outré, the folkish and the mystical.

I will leave the reader to investigate the full range of this music by themselves. It's a voyage of great beauty and it's a real break from the heavy stuff played by established 'Blood and Honour' style music.

Start listening to *Fever Ray*'s *When I grow up* and *Dry and Dusty*, I defy any red-blooded White Nationalist not to be captivated immediately!

Eddy Morrison, Leeds, Yorkshire

Editor's note: Eddy and Neil of New Dawn Studios are just starting to put together an album which will be a British attempt to capture some of this ambience. They anticipate about fourteen tracks. Neil has already done so with the poem When Nature and People were one, *which is on YouTube. Also a reminder that their first album* Black Crows *is available from valkyriefilms.net at £3.99 post free.*

JOHN TYNDALL MEMORIAL MEETING 2017

Western Spring are pleased to announce that we will be hosting this year's annual John Tyndall Memorial Meeting, which will be held at a prestigious venue on 1st July 2017, at a location in central England to be announced nearer the time.

The meeting will feature a line-up of leading nationalist speakers and a new format, and while some will recount their memories of John Tyndall, others will share their vision of how we project his legacy forward. Please set this day aside in your diaries.

Further information will be released in a series of announcements leading up to the big day, but ticket numbers will be limited and those wishing to attend are advised to secure their ticket by registering their interest early, by email to: jtmemorial@tutanota.com.

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VALHALLA BOUND SKINHEADS

Odinists take heart! There is a White Nationalist movement specifically for you! Valhalla Bound is a National Socialist and Odinist based movement seeking to unite all worthy like-minded kinsmen into one Front to greatly aid the 14-word goal. Our momentum is growing daily with units forming all over America. Follow your wyrd and contact us now: John Hancock, Box 7666, Spokane, WA 99207 or 14VBS88@gmail.com

Letters From Readers

Sir – I feel a response is required to the Book Review by Ian Freeman of the publication *Haters, Baiters and Would-Be Dictators* by Nick Toczek, which appeared in *H&D* issues 75 and 76. (Quite apart from being amazed that anyone would be prepared to pay £90 for the hard back edition.)

I have no doubt that Ian Freeman is correct in identifying Nick Toczek as being something of an obsessive collector of fringe publications, but there is space on the shelves of British nationalist history to include those who were actively opposing Jewish immigration and Jewish influence across the 20th Century. Criticise our leftist academic opponents by all means, but do not let your distaste for the politics and motivation of the author cloud your objectivity.

In addition I feel that Mr Freeman is wrong to dismiss all those writers and anti-Jewish political activists as being "Obscure Anti-Jewish Fringe Cranks". Certainly to the modern, late 20th Century / early 21st Century reader the observations and scrutiny proffered by Henry Hamilton Beamish and other contributors to the Britons Publishing Society or the *Hidden Hand* may appear to be outrageous and exaggerated, but these were men writing in the mindset of their time. Henry Beamish and his contemporaries were reacting to the Jewish mass immigration situation of the late 19th Century and early 20th Century. A rapid influx of non-English speaking Polish and Russian Jews impacting on a handful of British cities caused tremendous shock waves in late Victorian and Edwardian Britain, within a much shorter time frame than our post-1945 immigration problems. Moreover, Beamish's anti-German outpourings were motivated by Edwardian patriotic fervour and anti-German atmosphere of the Great War, a state of mind that is difficult for the modern British mind to understand.

Ian Freeman asserts that Henry Hamilton Beamish died in 1948, "as ineffectually and obscurely as he had lived in 1948. No loss to the Movement." A somewhat harsh dismissal of Beamish I think, which ignores the fact that Beamish and the Britons brought into British racial nationalist politics a number of activists, not just Arnold Leese, Anthony Gittens or Colin Jordan, but also influenced John Tyndall and a plethora of activists across the 1950s, later spilling out into the 1960s and beyond.

I also have to disagree with Ian Freeman's comment on Arnold Leese, "his disciple Colin Jordan, who banged his head with great courage and persistence against a brick wall of political irrelevance largely of his own making." This indeed runs counter to the assertions made by any number of Left-wing political historians, including the latest work by Paul Jackson, on the role and influence of Colin Jordan on post-1945 British Nationalism. Far from banging his head against a wall, Jackson argues that Colin Jordan and "the wide range of 'neo-nazi' (*sic*) groups he led, contributed to and inspired throughout his time as Britain's foremost promoter of Nazi ideology."

It is worth noting here that Paul Jackson also references Nick Toczek's book and lists it as a source for academic references. Left-wing/anti-racist academics at least consider Toczek's tome to be worthwhile. As for conspiracy theories, time and space does not me to expand on the theme here, but I think that Ian Freeman is equally too dismissive on this part of his subject. I do not for one minute believe that "everything is down to a Jewish conspiracy", nor for that matter did Colin Jordan. However, the influence and involvement of powerful interests in world politics and global affairs cannot be so easily dismissed as the ravings of conspiracy nuts.

Whether or not the *Protocols* are genuine, are Czarist anti-Semitic propaganda, are a forgery or are an inspired understanding of pre-Zionist machinations can be debated for years without a final, conclusive proof. Perhaps one of my strongest disagreements with Ian Freeman's review in his statement that, "*H&D* has regular writers who are both Jewish and solid White racial nationalists…." While I am in no position to comment as to who may be or not be regular writers for *H&D*, I am sure that there are many readers of *H&D* in addition to myself who regard it as impossible for a Jewish person to be a White racial nationalist. In my book this is impossible on grounds of ethnic origins and racial background. This would be no different to considering that someone of mixed-race

(Asian/white or African/white) could be considered as a solid White racial nationalist if they made patriotic statements and opposed immigration.

Finally, Ian Freeman undermines his own argument by stating that; "If this reviewer could have been bothered he could have written a very similar book about exactly the same people, from no more sympathetic a viewpoint. It would have been called 'Nutters Who Have Brought the Nationalist Movement into Disrepute'. However unlike Mr Toczek I would not have wasted my time writing it." This after dedicating so much of his time to a detailed review of Toczek's book which ran over two editions of *Heritage and Destiny* and occupied no less than six and a half pages.

Whenever I find myself at a loose end I will endeavour to track down a cheap second hand copy of *Haters, Baiters and Would-Be Dictators*, I think I will enjoy reading all the minutiae of Toczek's alleged obsessive research and checking which of the old bulletins and pamphlets he quotes are represented in the Colin Jordan archive collection here at the BM Sunwheel Office.

NS regards,

Stephen Frost, National Secretary, British Movement, Yorkshire

Sir – I have long been an admirer of *H&D* contributor Ian Freeman, author of numerous book reviews and articles published here. In the past, he could always be counted upon for advocating and defending hardline racial nationalism with wit, intelligence and a sweeping knowledge of history. But something has changed…

His two-part review of Nick Toczek's book *Haters, Baiters and Would-Be Dictators* (*H&D* issues 75 and 76) saw a sea change in his outlook. If Freeman has abandoned his earlier positions, that is his right. But there are a few points, at least, that I feel I must comment upon.

Freeman now apparently feels that the Jews, taken collectively, are merely innocent bystanders in the century-long decline of Europe and the rest of the White world. Indeed, he writes that the Jews are themselves White (a position that the Jews reject) and that they are only different from the rest of us because they are more intelligent than we are, and because they have been subjected to cruel and unjustified persecution by anti-Semites. And it is these anti-Semites whom Freeman feels are the real villains in the decline of the West. In particular, he lavishes contempt on Henry Hamilton Beamish and various associates of his, whose anti-Semitism is sometimes hysterical and detached from reality. But every movement will have its fringe elements and it is wrong to judge any movement as whole based on what marginal types have to say. In fact, this is what the nutters whom Freeman is so quick to condemn do: they take outrageous statements made by Jewish extremists and claim that such positions are representative of the thinking of ordinary, not-extremist Jews.

No, every bad thing that happens in the world is not the result of deliberate scheming by nefarious Jews. But likewise, is not true that the Jews are helpless and hapless bystanders who, through no fault of their own, have been caught up in the currents of history. There is a Jewish agenda to which all, or nearly all, Jews subscribe. This agenda essentially amounts to Jews advancing what they perceive to be their collective interests at the expense of all non-Jews. Put bluntly, the Jews are in a state of perpetual war with the rest of the world. On occasion, the Jews themselves will initiate some sort of hostile action. But more commonly, they are akin to an opportunistic infection that exploits to its own benefit conditions not of its own making.

By way of example, let us consider the current non-military invasion of Europe by Asians and Africans. No Jewish conspiracy purposefully decided to import tens of millions of Arabs and other Islamic peoples into Europe. But once this process was under way as the result of demographic pressures and political and economic instability in the Islamic world, the Jews heartily encouraged it as a method of breaking down the racial homogeneity of the European nations. The Jews use their undeniable control of the media and their considerable political influence to hasten the invasion, and to thwart every effort to prevent it or roll it back. And while White genocide as a long-term goal may not be in the forefront of the mind of every ordinary Jew on the street, it is at least recognized as a theoretical possibility by the Jewish political leadership and intelligentsia. Equally as disturbing as his eagerness to let the Jews off the hook for their misdeeds is Freeman's diagnosis of the cause of the ongoing decline of the West. It is Capitalism, he tells us, that is killing us – and it is anti-Semitism that is keeping us from fighting back against Capitalism. Anti-Semitism distracts Nationalists from recognizing their true enemy, and it keeps Jews from siding with us in a common struggle. Indeed, Freeman imagines a revolt against Capitalism in which Nationalists unite with Marxists (!) and Anarchists (!) to fight their common enemy. Once Capitalism is defeated, we can then all sit down together and sort out whatever differences we may have with each other. If he really believes that this is even theoretically possible, then Freeman has become even more detached from reality than the anti-Semitic nutters whom he condemns. It has been suggested to me that Freeman is discouraged by the lack of progress made by Nationalism over the course of the last half-century. This is a cause to which he has dedicated most of his life, and he feels let down. In an effort to rationalise the apparent failure of Nationalism, he is moving away from the hardline positions that he previously championed and looking for a new direction.

But the real problem is that Freeman, like many others, has had an unrealistic expectation of what was possible for racial nationalism to achieve in the post-1945 world. Given the paucity of our own resources, and the overwhelming strength of the forces arrayed against us, it is remarkable that we have continued to fight on at all.

Now, however, we are beginning to see the first true glimmering of realistic hope, in the UK with Brexit, in France with the successes of the *Front National*, and in the US with the incipient White revolt occasioned by the Trump phenomenon. This is not the time to retreat from hardline positions, anti-Jewish or otherwise, but rather to build support for these positions among the general population of our respective lands, where people are now willing to listen to what we have to say.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Kerr, Falls Church, Virginia

Sir – Regarding Eddy Morrison's book review (*H&D* 77) of *The Rise Of The Sunwheel* by Michael Walsh McLaughlin. Having read this small volume, I found it oddly written. Was it truly the ostensible author's work, or did someone else write it? I was rather dismayed that the author chose to traduce, and without any evidence whatsoever, accuse the late Colin Jordan of sexual child abuse. While blackening a political stalwart, there was a quick gloss over of another. Mentioned was Peter Marriner. This man was an infiltrator, who later appeared in the TV programme *Spies*, and as an asset passed information to Special Branch. What is nearly now forgotten is that back in the late 1970s, Marriner appeared, in silhouette, on another TV programme: *World In Action*. This was a so-called exposition of racial politics. British Movement national secretary, Peter Tidy recognized him. Tellingly, Marriner had been convicted years previously for robbing fellow homosexuals in lavatories. Sometime around 1976/77 BM national chairman, Michael McLaughlin raised the idea of looking into the founding of a National Youth Movement. Although it was at a drawing-board stage, leaflets were printed. However, the contact address was of Marriner's home in Birmingham. Imagine the scandal if things had developed.

Mike McLaughlin was behind the campaign in the 1970s to highlight the revisionist classic: *Did Six Million Really Die?* Leaflets offered the publication for thirty pence. A big leaflet campaign was undertaken by east London activists in Waltham Forest, organised by the late Alan Smith. There was a huge response from the public who purchased it. In 1976 I got pinched putting up BM posters. I was chuffed to receive from Mike McLaughlin a BM donation toward the fine. However, I quit the BM while in Diksmuide a few years later, and Eddy Morrison was the reason. Mike McLaughlin asked members of the BM East London Leader Guard to sort out Eddy, which they refused to do. I strongly thought Mike McLaughlin, as national chairman of BM, was very much 'out of order', and could no longer remain a member.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. B. Knight, Kent, England

Sir – Our ancestors worked and fought for the privilege so many Whites today take for granted and treat with scorn! Would you rather lose the great benefits that go with the White gene pool? Would you really be willing to give all of that up? Why do you allow anybody to lay a guilt trip on you for being born White? Are you foolish enough to think that they will respect you more or even like you just because you mope about wringing your hands and feeling guilt ridden? Do you really believe that you should feel guilty for being born White? Virtually everything in this country that makes life better is the product of White people! So you live in a clean decent White neighborhood and go to a good school, is that something to be ashamed of? So the next time some idiotic self hating White tries to lay a guilt trip on you tell them to shove it! And the next time some non-White loser tries to pull that on you just tell them; You wish you were White, because it's great to be White!

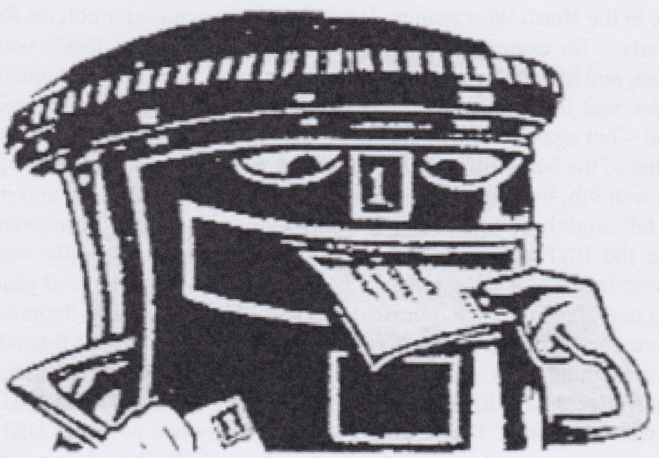
Best Regards,

J D Alder, Port St Lucie, Florida

Sir – Am I the only one thinking – is Trump borrowing from Adolf's speeches and ideas? At the beginning of Adolf Hitler's political career in 1920, he gave a speech before 2,000 Germans where he was given a standing ovation after each sentence, The repetitious theme literally was "Let's Make Germany Great Again". We know President Trump likes to study great speeches of the past to use elements thereof that impress him, such as he did in connection with his inaugural address. Both Adolf and Donald were new to politics and quickly became successful politicians. We have a somewhat similar situation now in the US as Germany faced then. There were lots of unemployed veterans then in Germany as now in the US, both countries faced deep debt, and both countries faced severe immigration and unemployment problems. Then as now, strong work ethic, keeping undesirables out, greatly increasing meaningful employment and rebuilding degraded infrastructure were paramount issues. Adolf said, "*Arbeit macht frei*", literally "work makes free".

Yours sincerely,

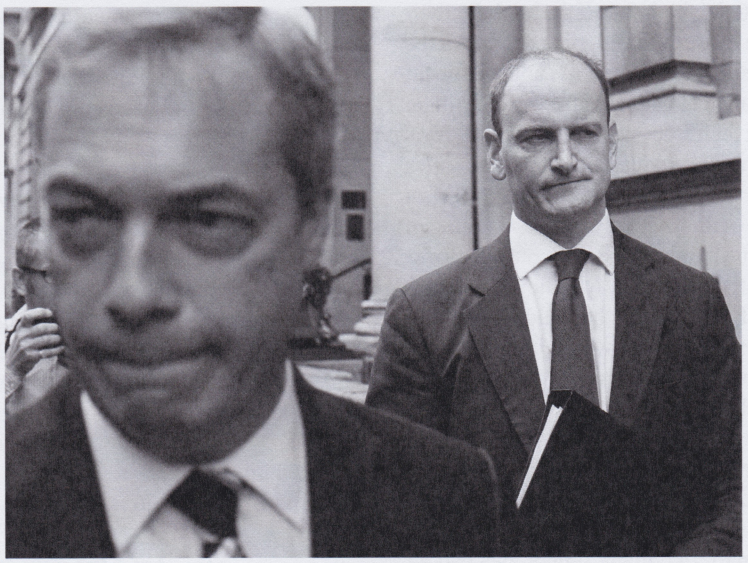
Sidney Secular, Silver Spring, Maryland



Movement News Update

During March and April 2017 the big story in British politics continued to be fallout from UKIP's dismal result at the **Stoke Central** by-election (see *H&D* 77). In particular criticism of UKIP leader Paul Nuttall fuelled increasing speculation that Arron Banks, formerly the key financial backer of Nigel Farage, would fund a new breakaway party or cross-party movement, possibly with Farage as its figurehead. Plans to launch a "Patriotic Movement" have now been put on hold until after the June 8th General Election.

This speculation was enhanced by continuing feeble UKIP performances at local by-elections in the weeks following Nuttall's Stoke shambles. On March 2nd in Mudeford & Friars Cliff ward, **Christchurch** (in affluent, Tory-supporting Dorset) UKIP fell from runners-up in 2015 to fourth place: their vote collapsed from 27.7% to 6.3%. Part of the problem here was the intervention of an Independent candidate who polled 34.7%, but this highlighted the fact that previous UKIP support was based partly on generalised protest rather than specific backing for the party's agenda – and that here as elsewhere, UKIP has utterly failed to build on its obvious potential.



UKIP's sole MP Douglas Carswell (*right*) has quit the party, will retire from Parliament at the General Election, and now backs Theresa May's Conservatives: UKIP lost a council by-election in his Clacton constituency on April 6th. Meanwhile ex-UKIP leader Nigel Farage (*left*) is building a new career as a radio interviewer but might be tempted back into politics when his financial backer Arron Banks launches a long-planned "Patriotic Alliance".

On the same day in Newcomen ward, **Redcar & Cleveland**, UKIP's vote slipped slightly from 18.4% to 16%. The important factor here is that this forms part of the new **Teesside** authority which has its first direct mayoral election on May 4th. It ought to be a target area for UKIP, but even here the party is in decline (though less sharply than in most of the country).

Also on March 2nd, Labour lost Kersal ward, **Salford** to the Conservatives, with UKIP in an irrelevant fourth place polling 9.0%. The main interest of this by-election was that Kersal is the most Jewish ward in the country, a centre of Greater Manchester's Orthodox Jewry. No doubt Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn's outspoken support for the Palestinian cause was unhelpful to his party in Kersal, though Labour also lost votes in the non-Jewish part of the ward owing to controversy over Salford council's support for a rebuilt football stadium. As many *H&D* readers will know, ex-Tory councillor Shneur Odze – a member of the ultra-Orthodox Jewish Lubavich sect – is an important UKIP figure in the North West region. His influence has caused problems for the party – for example his religious objection to shaking hands with women, and his public burning of a Hebrew-language New Testament. If Odze was to be an electoral asset anywhere, it would surely be in Kersal – but again it didn't happen.

One of the better recent UKIP results was in Derwent ward, **Derby**, on March 9th, but even here the party remained in third place and its vote fell slightly from 27% to 25.2%. This is a working class ward where the BNP once polled respectably – and UKIP actually won Derwent in 2014. Their councillor will be defending his seat next year, and is one of many UKIP representatives who presently looks doomed.

In a very different area – Exton ward, **Rutland**, an East Midlands Tory stronghold – UKIP declined from 14.8% to 9.8%, while in another Conservative area – Red Horse ward, **Stratford-on-Avon** – the UKIP vote was down from 15.1% to 10.3%. The really bad news for UKIP came a week later on March 16th. Warbreck ward, **Blackpool**, is a very White but socially divided ward, traditionally Tory but with a working class section where Labour ought to be haemorrhaging votes. The BNP attracted 313 votes (14.2%) in this ward in 2007: yet in this latest by-election UKIP managed only 75 votes (5.6%) and finished a distant third.

Worse still was a dog that failed to bark in Walton-le-Dale East ward, **South Ribble**, where a by-election on March 16th followed the resignation of former Tory councillor Andrea Ball, who had been sitting as an independent since resigning the Tory whip last July in protest at the refusal of the council leader to release an interim official report into abuse of young girls by (Pakistani-origin) taxi drivers. The report had been leaked to the press a few weeks earlier, after the council leadership had tried to bury it.

Yet despite this scandal and other issues, UKIP has no presence in South Ribble and didn't even have a candidate at the by-election!

On the same day in Saham Toney ward, **Breckland** (a borough in Norfolk where UKIP has four councillors), UKIP fell from second to fourth place with 11.5% (down from 31.6%). This bodes ill for the **Norfolk** county council elections on May 4th, when UKIP will be seeking to defend fifteen seats won across the county in 2013. In better times the party ought to have been looking to win extra seats in Norfolk: if so, the division that includes Saham Toney – Yare & All Saints – would be a prime UKIP target, since they polled 38.7% and were close runners-up in 2013. Yet in this very target area, at this crucial time, the party is collapsing.

A fourth by-election on March 16th was in South Heaton ward, **Newcastle-on-Tyne**. Though 83% White English this is among the worst no-hope wards in Newcastle for UKIP (and similarly was a weak ward for the BNP, even in the days when that party had a considerable presence in Newcastle). This is partly because of the high student population. As expected, UKIP polled only 5.4% in the by-election (down from 6.9%). Meanwhile the Liberal Democrats continued their ominous mini-recovery – disturbing for nationalists because this party has a history of appealing (despite its alien ideology) to sections of the disillusioned White electorate who should be potential UKIP or nationalist voters. The Lib Dems were crippled by their participation in the coalition government from 2010 to 2015, but now seem to be back in business, partly as the voice of committed pro-EU 'Remain' voters.

On March 23rd UKIP had a second crack at Higher Croft ward, **Blackburn with Darwen**. At a previous by-election in December last year, the same UKIP candidate Ian Grimshaw finished runner-up with 187 votes (25.0%), down 8.3% on their previous result in the ward nineteen months earlier. While this is far better than most recent UKIP votes, one must bear in mind that Higher Croft has enormous nationalist potential. Standing for the very tiny England First Party (backed by *H&D*) in 2007, Ian Lofthouse polled 269 votes (15.2%), while at the BNP's local peak in 2006, Natalie Jeal was runner-up with 527 votes (29.6%).

In short, Higher Croft is one of the best examples of the type of northern council ward that new UKIP leader Paul Nuttall has said he intends to target. Unless they can poll much higher than 25% in the likes of Higher Croft, Nuttall will struggle to hit a single target.

On April 6th UKIP was seeking to defend two seats in by-elections. In St James ward, **Tendring**, a long-serving councillor died in January: he had been variously a Conservative and Independent councillor

before gaining this seat for UKIP in 2015. Last year he left UKIP to sit with the 'Coastal Independent' group and had been part of the coalition with the Tories that runs Tendring council (the ward is part of what was UKIP's only parliamentary seat, Douglas Carswell's **Clacton**).

There was no Independent candidate in the St James by-election, so UKIP was up against Theresa May's Tories, who predictably won by a landslide with UKIP's vote down from 38.8% to 22.5%. Alongside other local by-elections and polls, this result would have helped make up Theresa May's mind to call a snap general election. The **Essex** county division that includes St James ward is Clacton West, where UKIP were runners-up with 31.4% in 2013: this should clearly be a top UKIP target on May 4th.

Also on April 6th UKIP was defending Elmhurst ward, **Aylesbury Vale**, where their councillor had stepped down in December due to moving out of the area. For once, this resignation was not due to any sort of scandal, but this time UKIP were crushed by the Liberal Democrats: UKIP candidate Phil Gomm polled only 9.0% – another step towards the death of his party. Elmhurst is part of the Liberal Democrat held Aylesbury North ward on **Buckinghamshire** County Council, where UKIP were runners-up with 25.3% in 2013.

Outside electoral politics, major news for nationalists during March-April 2017 involved several court cases.

Former members of the banned National Action joined demonstrators at an SDL/NF protest in the Scottish town of Alloa on March 11th.

Steve Uncles – who has been a leading figure in the English Democrats since the party's foundation in 2002 – was given a seven month jail sentence on March 13th after he was convicted on nine counts of election fraud relating to the 2013 local elections.

Mr Uncles had foolishly forged signatures on nomination papers: including standing two very elderly people as English Democrat candidates without their knowledge. Though he could not possibly have gained anything from this deception (other than boosting the standing of the EDs by allowing them to claim a greater number of council candidates), Mr Uncles' offences constitute a corrupt practice, so in addition to his prison sentence he will be barred from standing in any election for the next five years.

Mr Uncles was ED candidate for Kent Police & Crime Commissioner in 2016, though he was already awaiting trial for these offences. ED chairman Robin Tilbrook confirmed that the party had accepted the resignation of his long time colleague, and added: "It seems to me that he's been convicted for something pretty silly, rather than something where someone commits burglary and they don't go to prison."

This is true, but it begs the question of how this silly offence came to be committed by someone who was such a senior official and financial backer of the party.

Uncles' conviction was the second bad news in a fortnight for the English Democrats. On February 27th Mr Tilbrook lost a case he had brought against the *Yorkshire Post*, adjudicated by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This stemmed from last year's **Batley & Spen** parliamentary by-election: the *Post* had referred to "far-right groups" standing candidates in the by-election, which more mainstream parties including the Conservatives and UKIP had decided not to contest because it resulted from the murder of Labour MP Jo Cox. Mr Tilbrook argued that the EDs should not be described as "far-right", but IPSO – while agreeing that this was bound to be a subjective judgment – ruled that the *Post*'s description was reasonable, in the context of describing the by-election line-up. IPSO's ruling contrasts with a decision four years ago by its predecessor the Press Complaints Commission, who intervened to agree a published correction by *The Sunday Times* after that paper had described the EDs as "extremist right-wing" in the context of Police & Crime Commissioner elections. *The Sunday Times* agreed to amend their description of the party from "extremist" to "nationalist".

Paul Golding of the anti-Islamic organisation Britain First, who served an eight week prison sentence at the start of the year, returned to the fray with a well-attended demonstration in Telford on February 25th. Polish Catholic priest Jacek Miedlar, who has a long record of anti-Islamic activism and had been planning to speak at the Britain First event, was refused entry to the UK after being detained by border police at Stansted Airport.

On March 31st about 25 members of the South East Alliance and London NF held a small march in central London, in support of Brexit, and implementing Article 50 and ending immigration. which was addressed by Richard Edmonds and Jez Turner amongst others.

The next day (April 1st) Britain First joined up in central London with what's left of the EDL and held a march against Muslim terrorism – trying to exploit the Westminster terrorist attack the previous week. Around 300 of them including former EDL leader Stephen Yaxley-Lennon (AKA Tommy Robinson) were met by roughly the same amount of anti-fascists, but twice as many policemen!

Yaxley-Lennon, a former BNP member like Paul Golding, was ordered out of the area by the Met Police, after things started to hot up with the anti-fascists.Whether this was an April Fool's prank or not is not known.

On the same day in Bradford, the Yorkshire Forum held another successful, well attended meeting. Among the speakers were Steve Frost from British Movement, Clive Jones from New British Union and former National Action activist Alex Davies.

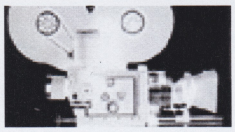
As mentioned in *H&D* 77, the nationalist youth group National Action was banned by Home Secretary Amber Rudd in December 2016, using her powers under the Terrorism Act – the first time these powers have been used against a 'far right' group. Former NA activist Lawrence Burns, convicted the same month at Cambridge Crown Court of "inciting racial hatred" was sentenced on March 10th to four years imprisonment: a disgracefully savage sentence which shows that the judge might have been influenced by political pressure.

Meanwhile former NA activists regrouped as the National Socialist Network, holding their first activity alongside NF and Scottish Defence League protesters in Alloa on March 11th. The demonstration was held to oppose local council plans for housing 'refugees' and was attended by NF chairman Dave MacDonald.

Finally, with political persecution of nationalists and historical revisionists increasing across Europe, German lawyer and political philosopher Horst Mahler was due to be returned to prison on April 19th. Now 81, Mahler was given a prison sentence in 2009 amounting to more than 10 years, for "incitement" due to publishing his views about German history.

In 2015 he was released into a prison hospital because of a terminal illness which led to amputation of his left leg. Earlier this year, despite his continuing critical health condition, Mahler was ordered to be returned to prison for another three years – amounting to a death sentence: but a day before his reincarceration Mahler escaped from Germany! He is now in a safe country where he will claim political asylum.

Peter Rushton, Manchester, England

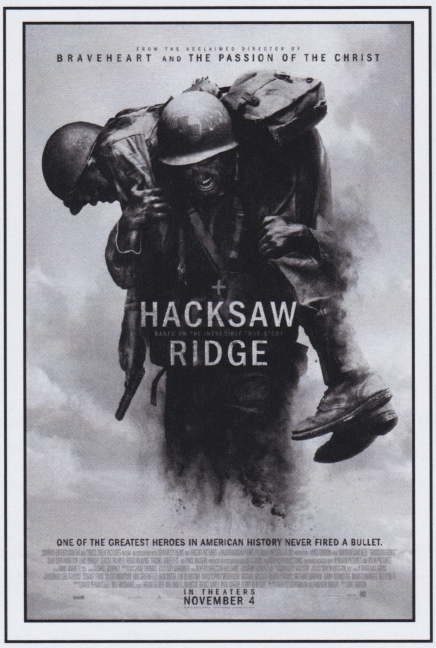


Movie Review – *Hacksaw Ridge*

Released UK – November 2016. Distributed by: Summit Entertainment One. Directed by: Mel Gibson; Rated: PG-13; Running time: 139 minutes

Mel Gibson's comeback movie *Hacksaw Ridge* is the extraordinary true story of Desmond Doss (Andrew Garfield) who, in Okinawa during the bloodiest battle of WWII, saved over 70 men without firing or carrying a gun. I'm a big fan of Gibson, and this 'comeback' movie is one I really wanted to see on the big screen – as opposed to my computer or TV screen! So I was very pleasantly surprised to see that it was being shown at the Preston Odeon, which is located not too far away from *H&D* Towers in Ribbleton, near Preston's historic dockland area.

Doss, so we are informed, was the only American soldier in WWII to fight on the front lines without a weapon, as he believed that while the war against Imperial Japan was justified, killing the little yellow fellows was nevertheless wrong! As an army medic, he single-handedly evacuated the wounded from behind enemy lines, braved fire while tending to soldiers and was wounded by a grenade and hit by snipers. Doss was the first conscientious objector ever to earn the Congressional Medal of Honour.



Gibson had been out of action – that's movie producing/directing action – for almost ten years. Ever since members of a certain ethnic/religious group – who have quite a big say in what goes on (and off) in Hollywood – sidelined him, due to his notorious "racism", "sexism", "homophobia" and the worse crime of all "antisemitism"!

Before poor Mel could get back in, he had a certain amount of grovelling to do, but he passed their test and back in he got. Before his big heaveho he had a reputation as one of the better actors-turned-moviemakers in the West. *Braveheart* (1995) with all its stirring speeches, battle scenes and historically questionable derring-do, remains his masterpiece, followed closely by *Patriot* (reviewed in *H&D* 5) another movie with an anti-English stance (but who cares about the nasty English anyway!) and even the underrated *Apocalypto* (reviewed in *H&D* 28) showed that he has a fine instinct for action and pacing, and a giggling, schoolboy sense of humour that leavens his taste for violence, although that was not the case with his brilliant *The Passion of the Christ* (reviewed in *H&D* 17) which depicted the extremely violent last twelve hours in the life of Jesus Christ.

Now, after a ten-year gap, he's back with *Hacksaw Ridge,* and judging by the Oscar nominations it has scored for Best Picture and Best Director, and the nomination for his leading man, Andrew Garfield, it's good enough to have earned him the usual suspects' forgiveness at least, although remember they never forget.

But *Hacksaw Ridge* plays to Mel's weaknesses as a movie-maker as well as his strengths, as you will notice as the movie passes the halfway mark.

Our hero Desmond Doss, from Lynchburg, Virginia, played wonderfully by British-American Andrew Garfield, is a Seventh Day Adventist who volunteers for service as a medic when the United States goes to war. Just one problem: Doss refuses to carry a weapon, as required even for medics. He struggles through basic training without touching a gun despite beatings from his unit, who are encouraged to drive him out by the company commanders Sergeant Howell and Captain Jack Glover (Vince Vaughn and Sam Worthington), and the best efforts of the US Army to court-martial him. Once in service, he is reluctantly tolerated until the soldiers are sent into action in Okinawa, part of the attempt to capture what became known as "Hacksaw Ridge". Wave after wave of American troops are flung back from the escarpment – but Doss remains up top and saves the lives of over 70 injured men.

It's a portrait of a hero, and there's zero question – in this reviewer's mind anyway – that Doss was a man of uncommon bravery and compassion. Garfield does a good job of keeping him just on the right side of sainthood too, showing the anger and the anguish he experiences as he tries to live up to his own ideals. Tom Doss (Hugo Weaving), as his WWI-scarred father, gives context to his daring decision, showing a man still traumatised by the loss of his entire generation on the fields of Flanders and terrified of losing his son too.

But the movie doesn't challenge Doss's idealistic plan for his own war effort: we feel he's in the right, Gibson obviously agrees, and everyone who stands in his way is too clearly misguided. A truly great movie would have offered an effective and well-meaning foil for his pacifism – even if only to see him emerge triumphant.

So there's something old-fashioned about this, an occasional sense that it's less concerned with portraying a good man in a bad world than it is with hitting you over the head with the moral superiority that flows from his unwavering faith (it's perhaps ironic that Garfield was nominated for this instead of for Martin Scorsese's movie *Silence*, where he plays a 17th- century Jesuit priest who travels to Japan to minister to Christian converts).

And that's where Gibson's hand lies too heavy on the tiller. A bit of Christ imagery towards the end doesn't help matters, and the Kubrickian structure of the movie, half-training camp and half-battlefield, draws unfortunate comparisons to a more subtle movie. Gibson lingers too often on the slow-motion images of blossoming flames and red-gold explosions, and on the overwhelming tide of Japanese soldiers erupting from tunnels and bunkers, turning the war-is-hell message into something that's a little too close to war porn.

Still, Doss's story is truly compelling and wildly inspiring, so perhaps those are largely quibbles. In these troubled times, we could do worse for a hero than a White man who put his enlistment papers where his mouth is and saved scores of other White lives. And if this marks the return of Mel Gibson to Hollywood's good graces? It's no great surprise. In the minds of the usual suspects he did unconscionable things, but we live in a world where money talks and that forgives far worse more eagerly.

So talking of money; is it worth a tenner (or maybe more) to watch it on the big screen? Well I think so, for the combat sequences alone, set on a blasted, blood-soaked Okinawan ridge in 1945 and recreated in micro-detail in Australia in 2014, are filmed in pure Viscera Vision — they blaze and roar with the expression of pure violence. Like *Saving Private Ryan*'s opening salvos, only at altitude, the thick fog of smoke, cordite and blood leaves you gasping for air.

In this maelstrom, Doss's acts of raw courage provide a much-needed focal point. As the battle for command of the island swings one way and then the other, he saves first one, then another, and finally dozens of Ryans. The complexities of his moral stance fall away, replaced by the simple maths of saving lives.

However, if you missed this on the big screen, do not despair as it will soon be available on DVD from your local HMV (if there are any still standing by then) and soon afterwards on Sky Movie channel (if you can afford such luxuries). How or wherever you manage to watch it, I think you will you enjoy it.

Reviewed by Mark Cotterill, Preston, Lancashire